

**NEWS from the North Dakota Department of Human Services  
600 East Boulevard Avenue – Department 325, Bismarck ND 58505-0250**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
December 1, 2009**

Contact: Heather Steffl, N.D. Department of Human Services, Public Information Officer,  
701-328-4933

**Governor's Olmstead Commission to meet Dec. 2 in Bismarck**

BISMARCK, N.D. – North Dakota's Olmstead Commission is meeting in Bismarck on Wednesday, Dec. 2, 2009, 1 – 4 p.m., in the Sakakawea Room of the Capitol. The public is welcome to attend.

Established by Gov. John Hoeven in 2001, the commission is responsible for state planning efforts that focus on serving people with disabilities in the least restrictive, appropriate setting. The commission's name and purpose are derived from the U.S. Supreme Court decision in *Olmstead vs. L.C.*, which addresses discrimination under the Americans with Disabilities Act and supports community living options for people with disabilities.

Agenda items include a Transition Task Force update, a housing update from the N.D. Housing Finance Agency, an Aging and Disability Resource Center grant update, developments regarding long-term continuum services from the N.D. Department of Human Services, and Olmstead Workgroup reports. The commission will also receive reports on the N.D. Transit Regionalization Plan (pilot projects) and the Rural Transit Needs Assessment from the N.D. Department of Transportation.

Individuals who need accommodations to participate or who have questions can contact Heather Steffl at 701-328-4933 or [hsteffl@nd.gov](mailto:hsteffl@nd.gov), or through Relay ND at 800.366.6888 or 711.

The governor's Health and Human Services Policy Advisor, Tami Wahl, and N.D. Department of Human Services Executive Director, Carol K. Olson, co-chair the commission. Members are appointed by the governor.

A list of members appears on the Boards and Commissions section of the governor's Web site at <http://governor.nd.gov/boards/>. Information about the Olmstead Commission is on-line at [www.nd.gov/dhs/info/olmstead-commission.html](http://www.nd.gov/dhs/info/olmstead-commission.html).

###