

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

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Contacts: Heather Steffl, Public Information Officer, 701-328-4933, or LuWanna Lawrence, Assistant Public Information Officer, 701-328-1892

Human Services hosts grant stakeholder meeting Nov. 2 in Bismarck

BISMARCK, N.D. – The North Dakota Department of Human Services' Medical Services Division is holding a Money Follows the Person grant stakeholder meeting Tuesday, Nov. 2, 2010, from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. in the Pioneer Room at the State Capitol. The public is welcome to attend.

Stakeholders act in an advisory capacity to the department and receive quarterly updates on grant activities, which are focused on community-based services for individuals with disabilities. Grant funds help eligible individuals transition from institutions to community settings.

Agenda items include discussion about the current transition process, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services recommendations (pending), and the recommended increase in the transition benchmark. Grant program objectives and benchmarks related to housing coordination, home and community-based services marketing, nursing quality support, local contact agency implementation, and outreach services and training will also be discussed.

Individuals who need accommodations to participate in the meeting or who have questions can contact Jacob Reuter at 701-328-2321, jwreuter@nd.gov, or through Relay ND at 800-366-6888 or 711.

The federal government awarded the Department of Human Services the 5-year, \$8.9 million grant in 2007. Adult Medicaid clients who are elderly or have physical or other disabilities and who live in nursing homes, the Developmental Center, or other institutions may qualify for transition services. Participation is voluntary.

Since transitions began in 2008, 42 individuals have transitioned to community settings.

More information is available online at www.nd.gov/dhs/info/pubs/mfp.html.

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