

**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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Ring hired as Assistant Regional Director for Badlands Human Service Center

BISMARCK, N.D. – The N.D. Department of Human Services has hired Lynden Ring as the assistant regional director for the Badlands Human Service Center in Dickinson.

Ring will be responsible for supporting the director, Tim Sauter, and managing the day-to-day functions of the human service center that offers substance abuse treatment, counseling, along with disability, mental health, and aging services to individuals living in Adams, Billings, Bowman, Dunn, Golden Valley, Hettinger, Slope, and Stark counties.

Ring has been with the Department of Human Services for 22 years. Prior to his new position, Ring was the director of the Extended Care Treatment Unit at the West Central Human Service Center in Bismarck. The unit assists individuals with serious mental illness by offering supportive therapy, skill-building techniques, and community training to promote recovery and long-term success.

In addition, Ring has also managed several contracts with private providers who offer residential and community-based services for individuals with mental illness. Ring has also administered the center's Extended Service Employment program which provides employment opportunities and support to individuals with mental illness.

Prior to joining the department, Ring was a residential counselor at the Dakota Boys Ranch in Minot. Ring holds a bachelors degree from the University of North Dakota, and has completed course work in addiction counseling at Minot State University, along with a nine-month practicum with the Northwest Consortium for Addiction Counselor training.

Ring succeeds long-time assistant regional director Dana Rivinius who retired on April 30, 2010, after 38 years with the Badlands Human Service Center.

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