

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

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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**ND Mental Health Planning Council to Meet Oct. 20 & 21 in  
Bismarck**

BISMARCK, N.D. – The North Dakota Mental Health Planning Council will meet in Bismarck on Thursday, Oct. 20, 2011, from 1 to 4 p.m. and Friday, Oct. 21, from 9 a.m. to noon at the Comfort Inn. The gathering is the council's annual organizational meeting and is open to the public.

Agenda items include review of division reports and membership applications, election of officers, and organizing upcoming events. Council members will also identify its priority areas for the upcoming year as well as discuss a move towards a behavioral health council structure. Other business may be discussed.

The North Dakota Mental Health Planning Council meets quarterly to discuss and plan mental health services and supports for children and adults living in the state. The council consists of 27 members appointed by the governor who are representatives from state agencies, social services, public and private providers, and consumers of mental health services and their families.

Committee information is online at [www.nd.gov/dhs/services/mentalhealth/ndmhpc/](http://www.nd.gov/dhs/services/mentalhealth/ndmhpc/), or by contacting Lauren Sauer in the Division of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services, N.D. Department of Human Services, at 701-328-8920.

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