

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

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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Contact: LuWanna Lawrence, Assistance Public Information Officer, 701-328-1892

## **Educational Forums Planned to Celebrate Family Caregiver Program** *Gov. Dalrymple Declares November Family Caregiver Month*

BISMARCK, N.D. – The N.D. Department of Human Services Aging Services Division, along with various partners, is co-hosting educational forums throughout the state to celebrate the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the National Family Caregiver Support Program. The program provides support services to caregivers who provide in-home care for family members in North Dakota who are elderly or who have physical disabilities.

Each hour-long forum will feature an inspirational presentation by Linda Narum titled “*Caregiving: The Color of Great.*” She will share first-hand accounts of caregiving as well as honor caregivers for their positive impact on people’s lives. Refreshments will be served.

Scheduled forums include:

### **Tuesday, Nov. 1, 2011**

- 12:15 p.m., **Williston**, Williston Senior Center, 18 Main St.

### **Wednesday, Nov. 2, 2011**

- 2 p.m., **Minot**, Parker Senior Center, 21 First Ave. SE.

### **Thursday, Nov. 3, 2011**

- 11 a.m., **Devils Lake**, Heritage Hall, Lake Region State College Campus, 1801 College Dr.

### **Friday, Nov. 4, 2011**

- 1 p.m., **Grand Forks**, County Office Building Sixth Floor, 151 S. Fourth St.

### **Tuesday, Nov. 8, 2011**

- 2 p.m., **Fargo**, Carlson Community Room, 2801 32<sup>nd</sup> Ave. S.

### **Wednesday, Nov. 9, 2011**

- 1 p.m., **Valley City**, Barnes County Senior Center, 139 Second Ave. SE

### **Thursday, Nov. 10, 2011**

- 2 p.m., **Bismarck**, Edgewood Vista, Edgewood Village, 3124 Colorado Lane

### **Monday, Nov. 14, 2011**

- 1:30 p.m. (MT), **Dickinson**, Sunset Senior Center, 46 First Ave. E.

“Family caregivers meet the long-term care needs of thousands of older adults and adults with physical disabilities in our state,” said Jan Engan, the department’s Aging Services Division director. “These forums are designed to honor these devoted spouses, grandparents, adult children, and relatives who provide care for their loved ones 24-hours a day.”

**(MORE)**

## **Educational Forums Planned to Celebrate Family Caregiver Program – Page 2**

The forums are sponsored by the N.D. Department of Human Services, AARP, and the Governor's Committee on Aging.

There are between 300 and 400 caregivers enrolled in the North Dakota Family Caregiver Support Program each year. They receive support accessing available services including individual counseling, support groups, caregiver training, respite care for occasional breaks from caregiving responsibilities, and equipment such as a shower bench or safety rails for daily living activities.

The 2011 Family Caregiver Month proclamation can be viewed online at <http://governor.nd.gov/media-center/proclamation/family-caregiver-month>.

For more information on the North Dakota Family Caregiver Support Program, call the N.D. Aging and Disability Resource-LINK toll-free at 1-855-GO2-LINK (1-855-462-5465), ND Relay TTY 1-800-366-6888 or go online to [www.nd.gov/dhs/services/adultsaging/caregiver.html](http://www.nd.gov/dhs/services/adultsaging/caregiver.html).

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