

# **NEWS from the North Dakota Department of Human Services**

## **600 East Boulevard Avenue, Bismarck ND 58505**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Qualified Service Providers Provide In-Home Care to Those Who Want to Live at Home**

*Upcoming meeting designed to recruit providers and enhance caregiving skills*

BISMARCK, N.D. – The N.D. Department of Human Services' Medical Services Division will hold an informational meeting for all current qualified service providers and anyone interested in exploring the caregiving field on Tuesday, Oct. 23 from 2 to 4 p.m. (Central Standard Time). The event will take place at the Morton County Social Service Office, 200 Second Ave., NW in Mandan.

The meeting will include an interactive online demonstration on completing enrollment forms and billing documents, an overview of programs and services available through the department that support independent living, a review of provider rates and reimbursement requirements, and a discussion about the role and responsibilities of a qualified service provider.

Qualified service providers are friends, neighbors, and family members who provide in-home care to older adults and people with disabilities so they can continue to live in their own homes and communities. They help people with cooking, cleaning, laundry, dressing, bathing, and transferring, as well as with other services and supports.

“As people age, many want to continue to live in their own homes and communities as long as possible,” said Karen Tescher, assistant director of the Long-Term Care Continuum for the department. “Qualified service providers play an important role by providing a variety of in-home supports so people can fulfill their wish of living at home.”

The Department of Human Services has created a video highlighting the experiences of people providing services for clients as a qualified service provider. The 18-minute presentation titled “A Realistic Job Preview” is online at [www.nd.gov/dhs/services/adultsaging/providers.html](http://www.nd.gov/dhs/services/adultsaging/providers.html).

Tescher said there is always a need for qualified service providers especially in rural communities in North Dakota. Currently, there are about 230 qualified service providers in Burleigh and Morton counties.

Individuals interested in becoming a qualified service provider should contact their local county social service office. Contact information is online at [www.nd.gov/dhs/locations/countysocialserv/](http://www.nd.gov/dhs/locations/countysocialserv/). Information is also available at [www.nd.gov/dhs/services/adultsaging/providers.html](http://www.nd.gov/dhs/services/adultsaging/providers.html) or by calling the department toll free at 1-855-GO2-LINK (855-462-5465) or ND Relay TTY 800-366-6888.

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