

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

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Meetings to Help Enhance Caregiving Skills for Direct Care Workers to be Held in Wahpeton and Fargo

BISMARCK, N.D. – The N.D. Department of Human Services' Medical Services Division will hold informational meetings for current qualified service providers and anyone interested in exploring this caregiving field in Wahpeton and Fargo.

The Wahpeton meeting will take place on Monday, Dec. 3, 2012, from 1 to 3 p.m. on the second floor of the Wahpeton Law Enforcement Center, 413 Third Ave. N. The Fargo meeting will be held on Wednesday, Dec. 5, from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. at the Cass County Social Service office basement meeting room, 1010 Second Ave. S.

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.

The meeting will include an interactive online demonstration on how to complete enrollment forms and billing documents, an overview of programs and services available through the department that support independent living, and a review of provider rates and reimbursement requirements. There will also be a discussion about how to become a qualified service provider as well as the responsibilities associated with the caregiving role.

The department has created a video highlighting the experiences of people providing services for clients as qualified service providers. The 18-minute video is online at www.nd.gov/dhs/services/adultsaging/providers.html.

Individuals interested in becoming a qualified service provider should contact their local county social service office. Information is online at www.nd.gov/dhs/locations/countysocialserv/ and at www.nd.gov/dhs/services/adultsaging/providers.html. People can also call the Department of Human Services toll free at 1-855-GO2-LINK (855-462-5465) or ND Relay TTY 800-366-6888.

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