

NEWS from the North Dakota Department of Human Services

600 East Boulevard Avenue, Bismarck ND 58505

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Feb. 6, 2012

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Autism Spectrum Disorder Task Force to Meet Feb. 15

BISMARCK, N.D. – The Autism Spectrum Disorder Task Force will meet Wednesday, Feb. 15, 2012, from 10:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. by the use of various video conference sites located in North Dakota.

The task force was created by the legislature in 2009 to examine early intervention and family support services for individuals with autism spectrum disorder to help them remain in their homes and communities.

The public is invited to participate in the meeting from any of these locations:

- **Bismarck** – N.D. Department of Human Services Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services Division, Prairie Hills Plaza, 1237 W. Divide Ave., Suite 1C, Prairie Room
- **Fargo** – Southeast Human Service Center, 2624 Ninth Ave. S., Red River Room
- **Grafton** – Developmental Center, 701 W. Sixth St., Life Skills and Nutrition Services Building, Room 147
- **Grand Forks** – Northeast Human Service Center, 151 S. Fourth St., Suite 401, Meeting Room 5E
- **Jamestown** – South Central Human Service Center, 520 Third St. NW, Conference Room 124
- **Minot** – North Central Human Service Center, 1015 S. Broadway, Suite 18, Conference Room 411 or Minot State University, Memorial Hall, Room 207

Agenda items include presentations from the North Dakota Center for Persons with Disabilities at Minot State University, report on the recent Human Services Interim Committee autism agenda item, continued work on autism spectrum disorder state plan, and Medicaid autism waiver. A member from the North Dakota Psychological Association will also be in attendance. Other business may also be discussed.

The council consists of 16 members appointed by the governor and includes representatives from the mental health profession, developmental disabilities system, state agencies, legislators, educators, and family members. JoAnne Hoesel, director of the Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services Division of the N.D. Department of Human Services, chairs the task force.

For more information on the task force, go online to www.governor.nd.gov/boards/boards-query.asp?Board_ID=159, or call 701-328-8920, toll-free 1-800-755-2719 or ND Relay TTY 1-800-366-6888.

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