

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

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
May 14, 2012**

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Autism Spectrum Disorder Task Force to Meet May 16 in Bismarck

BISMARCK, N.D. – The Autism Spectrum Disorder Task Force will meet Wednesday, May 16, 2012, from 10:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. in the Prairie Rose Conference Room at Prairie Hills Plaza, 1237 W. Divide Ave., Suite 1C, in Bismarck.

The North Dakota Legislature created the task force 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.

Agenda items include discussion on the recommendations to the Human Services Legislative Committee and an update on services from the Anne Carlsen Center in Jamestown. Other business may also be discussed.

Council members are appointed by the governor and include 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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