

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

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Parents LEAD Resources available at the N.D. State Fair

BISMARCK, N.D. - Have your kids ever asked you “why is it okay for moms and dads to drink alcohol?.” Representatives from the N.D. Department of Human Services’ Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services Division will be at the North Dakota State Fair in Minot July 20-28 providing information about a program called Parents LEAD. The public is invited to stop by their booth located in Commercial Building II on the State Fairgrounds to pick up a conversation starter kit for parents and other resources to help prevent underage drinking.

Parents LEAD is an underage drinking prevention website that provides helpful information to parents so they can have age-appropriate discussions with their children about the impact of underage drinking.

“As parents, we have all had moments where we didn’t know what to say,” said Pamela Sagness, prevention administrator with the department. “Parents LEAD provides tips and tools on starting these difficult conversations and continuing them into adulthood.”

Parents LEAD is a collaboration between the N.D. Department of Human Services, N.D. Department of Transportation, North Dakota State University Extension Service, and the North Dakota University System Consortium for Substance Abuse Prevention.

There will also be information at the booth about a new prescription drug abuse prevention campaign on safeguarding medications launched in June by the department.

The Department of Human Services’ Division of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services is the leading resource of substance abuse information and prevention efforts in the state. The division operates the North Dakota Prevention Resource and Media Center which offers free materials to individuals, schools, and communities.

For more information on substance abuse prevention, visit www.nd.gov/dhs/prevention or call 701-328-8919 or ND Relay TTY 800-366-6888.

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