

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

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Statewide Independent Living Council to Meet Feb. 12-13 in Bismarck

BISMARCK, N.D. – North Dakota’s Statewide Independent Living Council will meet Thursday, Feb. 12, 2015, from 1 to 5 p.m. CST, and Friday, Feb. 13, 2015, from 9 a.m. to noon at the Radisson Inn, 605 E. Broadway Ave., Bismarck, N.D. The public is welcome to participate in the meeting.

The council leads independent living network efforts to develop resources and to advocate for full community participation of North Dakotans with disabilities.

Council members will hear reports from subcommittees and will discuss the progress on the State Plan for Independent Living. Directors of the centers for independent living will provide reports and will discuss issues important to people with disabilities that are currently part of the 2015 legislative session. Assistant Attorney General Sandra DePountis will share information about open records and meeting laws. Harley Engelman of KAT Communications will provide an overview of the new DHS InfoNet System. The full agenda is online at www.nd.gov/dhs/info/publicnotice/index.html.

Individuals who need auxiliary aids or services to participate in the meeting can contact Helen Baumgartner at 701-328-8954, toll-free 800-755-2745, ND Relay TTY 800-366-6888, or hbaumgartner@nd.gov.

The governor appoints council members. They include consumers and administrators from the centers for independent living, people with disabilities, representatives from the North Dakota Department of Human Services’ Aging Services and Vocational Rehabilitation divisions, and Tribal vocational rehabilitation directors.

For information on the Statewide Independent Living Council, go online to <http://governor.nd.gov/boards/BoardDetails.aspx?boardid=48> or contact the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation at 701-328-8950, toll-free 1-800-755-2745, or ND Relay TTY 1-800-366-6888.

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