

NEWS from the North Dakota Department of Human Services
600 E. Boulevard Ave. - Dept. 325, Bismarck N.D. 58505

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Money Follows the Person grant stakeholders meeting to be held
Nov. 14 in Bismarck

BISMARCK, N.D. – The North Dakota Department of Human Services' Medical Services Division is holding a Money Follows the Person grant stakeholder meeting on Tuesday, Nov. 14, from 1 to 4 p.m., in the Pioneer Room at the state Capitol in Bismarck. The public should enter the Capitol through the south (tunnel) public entrance.

Stakeholders act in an advisory capacity to the department and receive quarterly updates on grant activities, which focus on promoting community-based services for individuals with disabilities. Grant funds help eligible older adults and people with disabilities who want to move from a nursing home or other facility to a community setting like an apartment, a family member's home, or other types of living arrangements with supportive services.

Agenda items include updates on program transition data, the behavioral health assessment, supported housing efforts for older adults and people with disabilities and workforce development. Other topics include transition coordination services under the department's Medicaid waiver for home and community-based services, and training efforts on the Minimum Data Set (MDS) Section Q, a functional assessment given to all residents in all Medicare or Medicaid-certified nursing facilities.

Stakeholders will also discuss proposed changes to the Money Follows the Person sustainability plan and 2018 transition benchmarks. A representative from the Life Skills and Transition Center in Grafton will also provide an organizational update.

The meeting is open to the public. A complete agenda is online at www.nd.gov/dhs/info/publicnotice/index.html. Individuals who need accommodations to participate in the meeting can contact Jacob Reuter at 701-328-2321, toll-free 800-755-2604, Relay ND TTY 800-366-6888, or jwreuter@nd.gov.

The federal government awarded the North Dakota Department of Human Services a \$8.9 million Money Follows the Person grant in 2007. Medicaid clients who are elderly or have physical or other disabilities and who live in nursing homes, the Life Skills and Transition Center or other institutions may qualify for transition services. Participation is voluntary.

Since transitions began in 2008, 398 individuals have transitioned to community settings.

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