

**NEWS from the North Dakota Department of Human Services
600 E. Boulevard Ave., Bismarck ND 58505**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 3, 2017**

Contacts: Heather Steffl at 701-328-4933 or LuWanna Lawrence at 701-328-1892

Autism Spectrum Disorder Task Force to meet March 6

BISMARCK, N.D. – North Dakota’s Autism Spectrum Disorder Task Force will meet Monday, March 6 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Central Time, in Bismarck and via video conference sites across the state to review developments in services for children with autism spectrum disorders and their families.

The advisory group meeting is open to the public and will originate from the North Dakota Department of Human Services’ Prairie Hills Plaza location in the Prairie and Rose Room, 1237 W. Divide Ave., Suite 1A, in **Bismarck**.

Advocates, parents and other interested individuals can also participate at these video conference sites:

- **Devils Lake:** Lake Region Human Service Center, 200 Hwy 2 W., East Conference Room;
- **Dickinson:** Badlands Human Service Center, 300 13th Ave. W., Suite 1, Basement General Staff Conference Room;
- **Fargo:** Southeast Human Service Center, 2624 Ninth Ave. S., Ransom Room;
- **Grafton:** Life Skills and Transition Center, 701 W. Sixth St., West Conference Center;
- **Grand Forks:** Northeast Human Service Center, 151 S. Fourth St., Suite 401, Room 5E;
- **Jamestown:** South Central Human Service Center, 520 Third St. N.W., Room 124;
- **Minot:** North Central Human Service Center, 1015 S. Broadway, Suite 18, Room 411; and
- **Williston:** Northwest Human Service Center, 316 Second Ave. W., Room A200.

Members will hear updates from the Department of Human Services’ Autism Services Unit, and will discuss the Collective Impact Model and legislation related to autism services. Members will have an opportunity to share updates, and may discuss other business.

Members of the public can also comment on autism-related issues. The meeting agenda is available online at www.nd.gov/dhs/info/publicnotice/index.html.

People who would like information about joining the meeting via conference call, or who need accommodations, such as auxiliary aids, to participate in the meeting can contact Melanie Phillips at 701-328-2324, toll-free 800-755-2719, ND Relay TTY 800-366-6888, or mdphillips@nd.gov.

The legislature created the task force in 2009, and members are appointed by the governor. Autism services information is available online at www.nd.gov/dhs/autism/index.html. Task force information can be found in the Boards area of Gov. Doug Burgum’s website: www.governor.nd.gov/.

###