

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

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
April 26, 2017**

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State Rehabilitation Council to meet in Bismarck April 27-28

BISMARCK, N.D. – The North Dakota State Rehabilitation Council is meeting Thursday, April 27, from 1 to 5 p.m. and Friday, April 28 from 9 a.m. to noon, to discuss programs and services and new developments to improve integrated community employment and rehabilitation of people with disabilities. Members will meet at the North Dakota Department of Human Services' Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) office, in the Prairie Rose Room, at 1237 W. Divide Ave., Ste. 1B, in Bismarck.

On Thursday, the agenda includes a report on the Vocational Rehabilitation Division budget and discussion on House Bill 1135 that was signed into law and consolidates the Committee on Employment of People with Disabilities with the State Rehabilitation Council. Discussion will focus on transition planning.

Members will also review council bylaws. Division staff will provide an update on transition planning involving schools and parents of youth with disabilities who have almost completed their public education, and will report on employer recognition awards and the expanded supported employment project. Subcommittees will also meet to conduct business.

On Friday, division staff will report on appeals. The Client Assistance Program and administrators of the regional VR offices in Devils Lake and Grand Forks will report on their activities. Council members will also hear tribal updates and committee reports.

A complete meeting agenda is online at www.nd.gov/dhs/info/publicnotice/index.html.

The council promotes employment and works to raise awareness of disability issues and to promote collaboration among individuals, public agencies, private organizations, and businesses to improve integrated community employment of working-age adults with disabilities.

Council information is available online at www.nd.gov/dhs/dvr/councils-partners/ndsrc.html or by contacting the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation at 701-328-8950, toll-free 800-755-2745, Relay ND TTY 800-366-6888, or dhsvr@nd.gov.

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