

**NEWS from the North Dakota Department of Human Services
600 E. Boulevard Ave. – Dept 325, Bismarck ND 58505-0250**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
June 13, 2017**

Contact: Heather Steffl at 701-328-4933

Behavioral Health Planning Council to meet June 16

BISMARCK, N.D. – The citizen group that advises the North Dakota Department of Human Services on behavioral health issues and services will meet Friday, June 16, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Comfort Inn of Bismarck.

Members will discuss legislation passed during the 2017 North Dakota Legislative Session relating to behavioral health services and the state's mental health block grant application. The block grant provides important funding for services that benefit individuals of all ages with serious mental illness. Council members provide feedback on the development of the block grant.

Members will also review the new council logo and receive updates on new appointments to the council and technical assistance available to support the council's work. Members will have an opportunity to provide updates. Other business may be discussed.

The public is welcome to attend, and the agenda includes time for public comment. The complete agenda is online at www.nd.gov/dhs/info/publicnotice/index.html.

Individuals with disabilities who need accommodations to participate can contact Julie Huwe at 701-328-8920, toll-free 800-755-2719, Relay ND TTY 800-366-6888, or jhuwe@nd.gov.

The governor appoints council members who represent people with first-hand knowledge of behavioral health services, their family members, other advocates, agencies, county social services, and public and private behavioral health service providers.

Council information is available by contacting the department's Behavioral Health Division at 701-328-8920, toll-free 800-755-2719, Relay ND TTY 800-366-6888, or dhsbhd@nd.gov.

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