

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

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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Media contacts: Heather Steffl at 701-328-4933 or LuWanna Lawrence at 701-328-1982

### **Northeast Human Service Center regional advisory group to meet June 19**

BISMARCK, N.D. – Northeast Human Service Center’s (NEHSC) regional advisory group is meeting June 19, from 4:30 to 6 p.m., in meeting rooms 5D and 5E at the center at 151 S. Fourth St., in Grand Forks.

This will be the final meeting before a new advisory group is formed to comply with Senate Bill 2039 that lawmakers approved this year. The law expands representation to include additional county social service board members and county commissioners from the region, and adds public health officials and at-large members from the center’s four-county service region.

At the meeting, NEHSC Director Randy Slavens will report on the budget, center operations, and staffing, including staff participation in the voluntary separation incentive program.

He will also discuss the implementation of two new clinic management models at the center that are intended to improve access to behavioral health services. On June 5, the center began offering Open Access behavioral health assessments. This allows people to receive assessments on a walk-in basis, without appointments, on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays between 8:15 and 10:30 a.m. In August, the center plans to launch “Just-in-Time” scheduling to shorten the wait time for psychiatric care and assure people in crisis can access psychiatric services.

The agenda also will include updates on outreach services in Cavalier, day treatment programming, the Foster Grandparent Program, upcoming training for staff and supervisors, and the electronic health record project. Slavens will also thank advisory group members for their service and will review the new advisory group requirements.

The meeting is open to the public, and the agenda is online at [www.nd.gov/dhs/info/publicnotice/index.html](http://www.nd.gov/dhs/info/publicnotice/index.html).

Individuals with disabilities who need accommodations to participate in the meeting should contact Michelle at 701-795-3154, toll-free 888-256-6742, Relay ND TTY 800-366-6888 or 711 (text telephone) or [mhuus@nd.gov](mailto:mhuus@nd.gov).

NEHSC serves residents of Grand Forks, Nelson, Pembina and Walsh counties. Human service center information is available on the Web at [www.nd.gov/dhs/locations/regionalhsc/northeast/index.html](http://www.nd.gov/dhs/locations/regionalhsc/northeast/index.html).

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