

**NEWS from the North Dakota Department of Human Services  
600 East Boulevard Avenue, Bismarck ND 58505**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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**Justice Reinvestment Initiative community information meeting is  
Aug. 15 in Devils Lake**

BISMARCK, N.D. – Representatives from the North Dakota Department of Human Services' Behavioral Health Division and the North Dakota Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation are hosting a community information meeting Tuesday, Aug. 15, in Devils Lake about a new initiative supporting the behavioral health recovery of people involved in the state's corrections system.

The meeting will be held from 2:30 to 4 p.m. CT, in the Sunset Room at the Fireside Inn and Suites at 215 U.S. Highway 2 E., in Devils Lake.

Agency officials will review the new justice reinvestment initiative and community behavioral health services funding for recovery support services that meet the unique needs of individuals on probation and parole or awaiting trial. The goal is to break the cycle of recidivism, incarceration, and the resulting growth in the state's prison population by effectively addressing behavioral health needs.

Presenters will share information about contracting opportunities for community-based behavioral health service providers and will answer questions.

Lawmakers appropriated \$7 million for contracted community behavioral health services for people involved in the initiative, which will be piloted in Bismarck, Devils Lake, Dickinson, and Fargo beginning later this year.

The initiative focuses on care coordination and increased access to recovery services and supports, including peer support, housing, and employment in order to prevent reoccurring behavioral health-related legal problems.

Individuals with disabilities who need accommodations to participate or who have questions can contact the Department of Human Services' Behavioral Health Division at 701-328-8920, in-state toll-free 800-755-2719, ND Relay TTY 800-366-6888, or [dhsbhd@nd.gov](mailto:dhsbhd@nd.gov).

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