

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

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Media contacts: Heather Steffl at 701-328-4933, or LuWanna Lawrence at 701-328-1892

State initiative offers jails training on withdrawal management and medication-assisted treatment for addiction

Kickoff meetings to be held in Bismarck and Fargo this week

BISMARCK, N.D. - The North Dakota Department of Human Services' Behavioral Health Division is funding training and consultation services to help correctional settings safely and effectively serve individuals who have a substance use disorder.

The division is contracting with Heartview Foundation and Community Medical Services to train correctional settings in North Dakota on developing and implementing withdrawal management services (formerly called social detox services) and policies that are recovery-oriented and trauma-informed, and that support medication-assisted treatment.

The division and the two opioid treatment programs are hosting kickoff meetings in Fargo and Bismarck this week. Local and state correctional system representatives are invited to learn more from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. on Sept. 6 at Dakota Medical Foundation, 4141 28th Ave. S., in Fargo, and on Sept. 7 at the Radisson Hotel, 605 E. Broadway Ave., in Bismarck. Correctional facilities will be reimbursed for in-state travel costs to attend one of the meetings.

Leaders from Community Medical Services and Heartview Foundation will provide an overview of the initiative and will share information on effective withdrawal management practices, medication-assisted treatment and how to align policies and procedures with treatment and recovery support practices. They will also discuss available consultation services and upcoming regional trainings in Bismarck, Devils Lake, Dickinson, Fargo, Grand Forks, Jamestown, Minot and Williston.

To participate in the kickoff meetings or for additional information, contact Mark Schaefer, regional manager of Community Medical Services at 701-858-1801.

"This is a great opportunity to assist correctional centers in supporting individuals with substance use disorders by connecting individuals with services and supporting jails in developing safe substance use disorder policies," said division director Pamela Sagness.

She said Heartview and Community Medical Services, as licensed opioid treatment programs, have the expertise to assist correctional settings.

Federal Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment (SAPT) Block Grant dollars are financing the training.

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