

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

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Badlands Human Service Center advisory group to meet Thursday

BISMARCK, N.D. – The advisory group for the North Dakota Department of Human Services' Badlands Human Service Center (BLHSC) in Dickinson is meeting Thursday, Jan. 11 from 1 to 3 p.m. MST at the center located at 300 13th Ave. W., Suite 1 in Dickinson.

The agenda includes an overview of regional human service centers and advisory group duties. Members will discuss and recommend a chairperson to the department's executive director and will plan for their next meeting. Other business may be discussed.

During the 2017 North Dakota legislative session, lawmakers approved Senate Bill 2039, which dealt with a number of human service issues including human service center advisory group membership. Lawmakers approved expanding membership to include additional county social service board members and county commissioners from each center's multi-county region, as well as public health officials and at-large members.

Advisory group members represent the counties in the center's service region, which include Adams, Billings, Bowman, Dunn, Hettinger, Golden Valley, Slope and Stark counties. Members provide information and recommendations to help the department and BLHSC identify needs and plan and develop health and social resources.

The agenda for this public meeting is available online at www.nd.gov/dhs/info/publicnotice/index.html.

Individuals who need accommodations including auxiliary aids to participate in the meeting can contact Joanna Smith at 701-227-7542, toll-free 888-227-7525, Relay ND TTY 800-366-6888, or joasmith@nd.gov.

The North Dakota Department of Human Services' eight regional human service centers provide behavioral health services, disability-related services, and other human services directly or through partnerships with county social services and other providers. Information about the regional centers is online at www.nd.gov/dhs/locations/regionalhsc/.

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