

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

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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## **Money Follows the Person grant stakeholder meeting to be held Feb. 12 in Bismarck**

BISMARCK, N.D. – The North Dakota Department of Human Services' Medical Services Division is holding a Money Follows the Person grant stakeholder meeting on Monday, Feb. 12, from 1 to 4 p.m. in the Pioneer Room, located in the Judicial Wing of the state Capitol. The public is welcome to attend.

Stakeholders act in an advisory capacity to the department and receive quarterly updates on grant activities, which focus on promoting community-based services for older adults and individuals with disabilities. Grant funds help eligible older adults and people with disabilities who want to move from a nursing home or other facility to a community setting like an apartment, a family member's home, or other types of living arrangements with supportive services.

The agenda includes a review of Money Follows the Person transition data and benchmark progress, program budget and the Empower Care Act - S. 2227, which is proposed federal legislation to reauthorize the Money Follows the Person project for five years. Stakeholders will provide updates on supported housing initiatives for older adults and people with disabilities, the publicly-funded behavioral health system assessment, and workforce development efforts.

Program Administrator Jake Reuter will give an update on the Money Follow the Person tribal initiative, an effort to assist the state and tribal nations by developing infrastructure to enable tribal entities to provide more home and community-based services. A representative from the Life Skills and Transition Center in Grafton will also provide an organizational update.

A complete agenda is online at [www.nd.gov/dhs/info/publicnotice/index.html](http://www.nd.gov/dhs/info/publicnotice/index.html).

The public should enter the Capitol through the south (tunnel) public entrance. Individuals who need accommodations to participate in the meeting can contact Reuter at 701-328-2321, toll-free 800-755-2604, Relay ND TTY 800-366-6888 or [jwreuter@nd.gov](mailto:jwreuter@nd.gov).

The federal government awarded the North Dakota Department of Human Services an \$8.9 million Money Follows the Person grant in 2007. Medicaid clients who are elderly or have physical or other disabilities and who live in nursing homes, the Life Skills and Transition Center or other institutions may qualify for transition services funded through this effort. Participation is voluntary. Since transitions began in 2008, 404 individuals have transitioned to community settings.

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