

**NEWS from the North Dakota Department of Human Services
600 E. Boulevard Ave., Bismarck ND 58505**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Seven regional human service center citizen advisory groups to meet between May 14 and 21

BISMARCK, N.D. – The citizen advisory groups for seven of the North Dakota Department of Human Services' eight regional human service centers will meet between May 14 and 21 to hear updates on behavioral health-related services and to discuss gaps and service needs and other business. Meetings are scheduled in Bismarck, Devils Lake, Dickinson, Fargo, Grand Forks, Jamestown and Minot.

Department and center clinical, behavioral health and operations leaders will share information about the training and roll out of MyAvatar, a new electronic health record system that will be used at the regional centers and the state hospital. Participants will also hear updates on the Open Access integrated behavioral health assessment implemented statewide last year, developments in emergency and crisis services, work underway to support psychosocial rehabilitation and recovery management and Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF) accreditation efforts.

Members will also participate in a culture building exercise and will review Gov. Burgum's strategic budget directions. Afterwards, members will discuss regional gaps in behavioral health and other services for children, adults and individuals with developmental disabilities and may make recommendations on the planning, funding and provision of services.

Advisory group meetings are open to the public. Agendas and meeting details are available online at www.nd.gov/dhs/info/publicnotice/index.html.

Meeting dates and locations include:

Bismarck: Tuesday, May 15, 1-3, 1237 W. Divide Ave., Suite 5, Morton Room (Entrance: Door 4, off Schafer Street);

Devils Lake: Tuesday, May 15, 10 a.m., 200 Hwy. 2 W.;

Dickinson: Thursday, May 17, 1-3 p.m., Mountain Time, in the center's Fields Conference Room, 300 13th Ave. W., Suite 1;

Fargo: Wednesday, May 16, 1-3 p.m., Dakota Medical Foundation Building, Alex Stern Room, 4141 28th Ave. S.;

Grand Forks: Monday, May 14, 10 a.m., 151 S. Fourth St., Room 5A and 5B;

Jamestown: Wednesday, May 16, 10 a.m.-noon, 520 Third St. N.W.; and

Minot: Monday, May 21, 10 a.m., in Room 400, 1015 S. Broadway, Suite 18.

Individuals who need auxiliary aids to participate in an advisory group meeting should contact the regional human service center. The names of designated contacts are included in the public meeting notices posted online at www.nd.gov/dhs/info/publicnotice/index.html.

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