

NEWS RELEASE | **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE** | Sept. 11, 2019

North Dakota Behavioral Health Planning Council to meet Sept. 12

BISMARCK, N.D. – The North Dakota Behavioral Health Planning Council, a citizen advisory group that includes people with lived experience and other stakeholders, will meet tomorrow, Sept. 12, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the Pioneer Room located in the Judicial Wing of the state Capitol in Bismarck. The public is welcome to attend.

The council will hear information about the Department of Health's pediatric mental health care access program and discuss human trafficking in North Dakota. A representative from the North Dakota Insurance Department will share information about mental health parity and insurance coverage. There will also be an update from HSRI consultant Bevin Croft.

The North Dakota Department of Human Services' Behavioral Health Division will brief council members on the upcoming Behavioral Health Fall Conference and provide a status update on peer support efforts and the federal mental health block grant.

The council has reserved time for public comment on behavioral health services and issues from 3:45 to 4 p.m.

The complete agenda is online at www.nd.gov/dhs/info/publicnotice/index.html.

The public should enter the state Capitol through the south (tunnel) public entrance. Individuals with disabilities who need accommodations to participate in the meeting or who would like more information about the Behavioral Health Planning Council can contact council facilitator Greg Gallagher at 701-224-0588 ext. 102, 711 (TTY) or ggallagher@agree.org.

The governor appoints planning council members who represent people with first-hand knowledge of behavioral health services, their family members, other advocates, agencies, county social services, and public and private behavioral health service providers. Council information is available at www.nd.gov/dhs/services/mentalhealth/ndmhpc/.

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