

NEWS RELEASE | **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE** | June 16, 2020

State Council on Developmental Disabilities to discuss grant outcomes and comprehensive review of services and supports at June 17 meeting

BISMARCK, N.D. – When the State Council on Developmental Disabilities meets June 17, members will hear updates on grants intended to promote innovation and address unmet needs during this pandemic. A consultant will share results from a comprehensive review of services, supports and unmet needs in North Dakota, and other business will be discussed.

The council meeting is from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. CT. Members and interested individuals can join the public meeting by calling 701-328-0950 and entering conference ID No. 235515363#.

The council routinely funds grants for innovative projects that promote quality of life, health and well-being and community inclusion of people with developmental and intellectual disabilities. Members will hear an update from the YMCA of Bismarck on its grant-funded effort to provide staff training and expand swimming lessons and water-safety programming for individuals with diverse abilities, including sensory-related needs.

Members will also hear how \$15,000 in grant funding for unmet COVID-19 related needs helped individuals, families, service providers and support groups prevent social isolation, sustain connections with family and friends, provide activities promoting health and well-being, and assure individuals and caregivers had needed personal protective equipment and supplies, among other needs.

Consultant JoAnne Hoesel will give a presentation on the Comprehensive Review and Analysis Report completed as part of the council's 2022-2026 State Plan development work. The review of health and health care, employment, education and early intervention, transportation, child care, housing, informal and formal services and supports and recreation, will help the council identify priorities for the council's state strategic plan.

Council members will also discuss the council's budget, membership, the annual Power Up health conference and self-advocacy conference, and new monthly Zoom calls that are planned to gather comments from individuals, families, providers and advocates on state council strategic plan priority areas.

The full agenda is online at www.nd.gov/dhs/info/publicnotice/index.html and includes time at 3 p.m. for public comment.

Individuals with disabilities who need auxiliary aids to participate can contact Julianne Horntvedt at 701-328-4847, 711 (TTY) or jhorntvedt@nd.gov.

The State Council on Developmental Disabilities promotes choice, independence, productivity, inclusion and opportunities for people with developmental disabilities. For more information about the council, visit www.nd.gov/scdd/.

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