

NEWS RELEASE | **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE** | Aug. 21, 2020

ND Autism Spectrum Disorder Task Force to meet Aug. 24 by video conference

BISMARCK, N.D. – North Dakota’s Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) Task Force will meet Monday, Aug. 24, 1 to 4:45 p.m. CT by video conference to discuss autism-related topics, including the state’s Medicaid 1915(i) state plan amendment that could benefit individuals who qualify for autism spectrum disorder services and their families once it is approved by the federal government.

A representative from the Life Skills and Transition Center in Grafton will share general placement information on individuals that live at the center with an autism spectrum disorder. There will also be an update on extended employment support services for adults with an autism spectrum disorder from the North Dakota Department of Human Services.

Members will review current enrollment and expenditures for the state’s Medicaid ASD waiver, ASD voucher program and services offered under the applied behavior analysis state plan amendment. The agenda also includes updates on workforce efforts, changes to behavior analyst licensing and potential changes to the ASD state plan.

Other topics will also be discussed. The meeting agenda is available online at www.nd.gov/dhs/info/publicnotice/index.html.

The task force meeting is open to the public. Individuals can join the meeting by computer or other electronic device using Microsoft Teams at <https://bit.ly/3gx0ZUh> or by phone at 701-328-0950, Conference ID 698 336 019#.

People who need accommodations to participate should contact Krista Fremming prior to the meeting at 701-328-2342, toll-free 800-755-2719, 711 (TTY) or krfremming@nd.gov.

The legislature created the task force in 2009; members are appointed by the governor. The task force is responsible for reviewing early intervention and family support services that enable individuals with ASD to live at home or in community settings, and programs helping individuals with autism spectrum disorder to transition from school-based settings to adult services and workforce development programs. In addition, the task force monitors the provision of services and reviews, amends and updates the state plan to better meet the needs of individuals with ASD.

Autism spectrum disorder services information is online at www.nd.gov/dhs/autism/index.html, and task force information is online at www.nd.gov/dhs/autism/taskforce.html.

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