

NEWS from the North Dakota Department of Human Services
600 East Boulevard Avenue – Department 325, Bismarck ND 58505-0250

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Contacts: **Bryan Fredrickson**, Regional Ombudsman, N.D. Department of Human Services, Aging Services Division, 888-342-4900 or 701-298-4413, **Helen Funk**, State Long-Term Care Ombudsman, N.D. Department of Human Services, Aging Services Division, 701-328-4617, or **Heather Steffl**, Public Information Officer, N.D. Department of Human Services, 701-328-4933

Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program seeks volunteers

BISMARCK, N.D. – The North Dakota Department of Human Services Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program is seeking volunteers to visit residents of nursing homes, basic care facilities, swing bed units, or assisted living facilities. The department is hosting informational meeting and volunteer training sessions across the state this fall. Dates and locations are listed below. To register, call Bryan Fredrickson toll free at 1-888-342-4900.

Training Sessions:

Fargo – September 27, 2005, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m., Southeast Human Service Center

Jamestown - September 29, 2005, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m., James River Senior Center

Dickinson – October 5, 2005, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m., Badlands Human Service Center

Bismarck - October 6, 2005, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m., State Capitol building

Grand Forks - October 19, 2005, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m., Northeast Human Service Center

Devils Lake - October 20, 2005, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m., Lake Region Human Service Center

Williston - October 26, 2005, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m., Northwest Human Service Center

Minot - October 27, 2005, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m., North Central Human Service Center

The training will educate participants about the program's purpose, the volunteer role, the Long-Term Care Residents' Bill of Rights, complaint handling skills, and confidentiality standards.

The department typically assigns each volunteer community ombudsman/ombudswoman to one long-term care facility. Currently, about 70 volunteers in North Dakota help to resolve concerns on behalf of residents of long-term care facilities.

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