

**NEWS from the North Dakota Department of Human Services**  
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**McLean named medical director of N.D. State Hospital**

BISMARCK, N.D. – The North Dakota Department of Human Services announced that Dr. Andrew McLean of Fargo, N.D., has accepted the position of medical director at the North Dakota State Hospital in Jamestown, N.D., which provides inpatient mental health and substance abuse treatment and transition services. He will assume his new responsibilities in October 2006.

McLean has provided psychiatry services and has served as medical director at the department's Southeast Human Service Center in Fargo since 1992. In addition to his new duties at the hospital, he will continue to serve as the center's medical director.

“The hospital spent close to two years recruiting a medical director,” said hospital superintendent Alex Schweitzer. “We are pleased to be able to hire someone of Dr. McLean's caliber who has dedicated years of service to the public mental health system in North Dakota. He is uniquely qualified to coordinate clinical and medical services between the hospital and the eight regional human services centers and will have a major role in the administrative and clinical structure of the hospital.”

The department's Regional Services Director Nancy McKenzie said, “Dr. McLean is very client-focused. His years of experience as a practitioner, educator, and consultant, and his ability to network with other public and private community partners make him well-suited for this new role and will further strengthen the critical link between inpatient and outpatient services.”

McKenzie said Southeast Human Service Center will seek additional psychiatric resources to complete its medical treatment team.

McLean, a Hillsboro, N.D. native, obtained his medical degree from the University of North Dakota (UND) and completed his psychiatry residency at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. McLean serves as a Clinical Professor of Neuroscience at the UND School of Medicine and Health Sciences. His areas of interest include working with and advocating for individuals with serious and persistent mental illness.

The North Dakota State Hospital provides short-term and long-term inpatient psychiatric and chemical addiction services to adults, children, and adolescents. Treatment goals include stabilizing and transitioning individuals to less restrictive appropriate settings such as outpatient community-based services. The hospital also receives referrals to provide competency evaluations and other specialized psychiatric services. To serve this traditional population, the hospital has 124 beds for adults and a separate 8-bed unit for children and adolescents with serious mental illness and substance abuse problems.

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The State Hospital provides contracted psychiatric and residential addiction treatment services for offenders referred by the Department of Corrections, and devotes about 90 additional beds for that patient population.

In addition, the hospital operates a 62-bed secure unit that provides sexual offender evaluation and treatment services for sexually dangerous individuals. The unit opened in 1997 after the legislature passed the civil commitment law. Most admissions to the secure unit follow release from the state corrections system and the subsequent referral by local states attorneys.

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