

**NEWS** from the North Dakota Department of Human Services  
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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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**Regional Child Support Enforcement Units Join N.D. Department of Human Services**

*Funding And Administration Transfer To State As Law Takes Effect*

BISMARCK, N.D. – Today the N.D. Department of Human Services welcomed approximately 120 new employees as a state law took effect transferring funding and the administration of the eight regional child support enforcement units from the counties to the state.

“The transition should be transparent to the public,” department Executive Director Carol K. Olson said. “We already have a strong working relationship with the regional units. Over time, the consolidation is expected to provide opportunities for specialization, leading to efficiencies and a greater ability to focus on customer service.”

Phone numbers have not changed. With the exception of the Bismarck regional enforcement unit, locations and mailing addresses also remain the same. In June, the Bismarck Regional Child Support Enforcement Unit moved across the street to the Provident Life Building and was assigned a new post office box, P.O. Box 7310. Customers are being notified.

The department’s Child Support Enforcement Division Director Mike Schwindt said that state and regional office personnel and the counties have been working hard on details related to the transition of operational funding, payroll and benefit administration, contracts and equipment, and other administrative issues.

North Dakota’s child support enforcement program has received national recognition, ranking second in performance for the past two years, and most recently winning the Western Interstate Child Support Enforcement Council’s 2006 Outstanding State Program award.

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