FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Contact: Nancy McKenzie, State Regional Human Service Center Director, 701-328-8926, or
Heather Steffl, Public Information Officer, 701-328-4933

Department of Human Services to host public meetings this fall
Agency seeks input from stakeholders for program planning and budgeting

BISMARCK, N.D. – The North Dakota Department of Human Services is hosting public
meetings across the state this fall and invites clients, service providers, advocates, county and
Tribal officials, legislators, and other stakeholders to attend. Agency officials are seeking input
on community needs and successes in serving vulnerable individuals. Meetings were held in
Grand Forks and Devils Lake last week, and have been scheduled in Bismarck, Dickinson,
Fargo, Jamestown, Minot, and Williston in October.

“We hope to identify broad areas of interest and to seek ideas and recommendations from our
partners in North Dakota’s human services system,” said Department Executive Director Carol
K. Olson. “These public meetings are a vital part of the planning that shapes how services are
provided, and they also factor into preliminary work on the department’s 2009-2011 budget
request.”

The department administers child protection services, child support enforcement, disability
services, food stamps, foster care, economic assistance programs, Medicaid, the children’s
health insurance program, home and community-based long term care services, mental health
and substance abuse treatment services, and aging services including senior meals and related
services. The department also includes the Developmental Center, the State Hospital, and the
eight regional human service centers, which provide mental health and substance abuse
treatment and other human services at the local level.

Together, the department, counties, Tribes, and other public and private organizations deliver
human services in North Dakota.

Remaining 2007 Stakeholder Meetings:
- **Oct. 3**, 1:30 p.m., Psychosocial Club, 212 2nd Ave. W., Williston, N.D.
- **Oct. 4**, 10 a.m. (MDT), Badlands Human Service Center, 200 Pulver Hall, Dickinson, N.D.
- **Oct. 17**, 1:30 p.m., North Central Human Service Center, Teddy Roosevelt Conference
  Room, 1015 S. Broadway, Suite 18, Minot, N.D.
- **Oct. 18**, 10 a.m., West Central Human Service Center, 1237 W. Divide Ave., Suite 5,
  Bismarck, N.D.
- **Oct. 23**, 1:30 p.m., Doublewood Inn, 3333 13th Ave. S., Fargo, N.D.
- **Oct. 24**, 10 a.m., South Central Human Service Center, Rooms 124-126, 520 3rd St. N.W.,
  Jamestown, N.D.

Members of the department’s leadership cabinet, along with regional human service center
directors will attend the meetings. Individuals who need accommodations to participate should
contact their local human service center. Individuals who are unable to attend can submit
comments and recommendations about human service needs to the department’s Executive
Office at 600 E. Boulevard Ave., Dept. 325, Bismarck ND 58505-0250.

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