FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 7, 2007

Contacts: Kate Kenna, Director, Northeast Human Service Center, 701-795-3000; Bryon Novotny, LSW, Director of Ruth Meiers Adolescent Psychiatric Residential Treatment Center, 701-795-3870; or Heather Steffl, Public Information Office, N.D. Department of Human Services, 701-328-4933

Ruth Meiers treatment center earns accreditation

Bismarck, N.D. – The Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF) announced that the Ruth Meiers Adolescent Psychiatric Residential Treatment Center in Grand Forks has earned a one-year accreditation for its residential treatment programs that serve children and adolescents.

Facility director Bryon Novotny said that the center participated in a rigorous review that included a site visit. "Achieving accreditation was difficult and time consuming, as all aspects of our programming came under intense review," he said. “This accomplishment represents a total team effort, and I am proud of the staff at Ruth Meiers for their hard work and willingness to explore even better ways of serving youth."

The Ruth Meiers treatment center is a program of Northeast Human Service Center and part of the North Dakota Department of Human Services. It has been providing residential treatment for adolescents and children from across North Dakota since 1989. The program is licensed for 12 beds and provides structured residential treatment services to individuals ages 12-18, as well as their families.

CARF is an independent, not-for-profit, international accrediting body whose mission is to promote the quality, value, and optimal outcomes of services through a consultative accreditation process that centers on enhancing the lives of the persons served. Founded in 1966, CARF establishes consumer-focused standards to help organizations measure and improve the quality of their programs and services.

For additional information about the Ruth Meiers Adolescent Psychiatric Residential Treatment Center, contact Bryon Novotny at 701-795-3870.

# # #