FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
September 5, 2008

Contacts: Jake Reuter, Program Manager, Medical Services Division, 701-328-2321, or jwreuter@nd.gov, or Heather Steffl, Public Information Officer, N.D. Dept. of Human Services, 701-328-4933

Group working to transition elderly and people with disabilities from institutions is meeting Sept. 10

BISMARCK, N.D. – The stakeholder committee advising the North Dakota Department of Human Services on the implementation of its $8.9 million federal Money Follows the Person grant will hold its next quarterly meeting on Wednesday, Sept. 10, 2008, 1-4 p.m. in the Pioneer Room, Judicial Wing of the Capitol in Bismarck. The public is welcome to attend.

The Center’s for Medicare and Medicaid Services grant’s goals include strengthening access to home and community-based long-term care services and transitioning Medicaid-eligible individuals from institutional care settings to home and community-based services, if they desire. Participation is voluntary.

Meeting agenda items include: implementation update, building awareness of home and community-based services, county service capacity, access and utilization of long-term care continuum services – especially among American Indians, as well as other matters.

The stakeholder committee members represent consumers and their family members, service providers, advocates, agency staff, the centers for independent living, and other interested persons and entities.

Individuals who need special accommodations to attend should contact the project manager Jake Reuter at 701-328-4090 or jwreuter@nd.gov. For more information about the grant, visit the department’s Web site at http://www.nd.gov/dhs/info/pubs/mfp.html or contact Reuter.

# # #