

**NEWS from the North Dakota Department of Human Services  
600 East Boulevard Avenue, Bismarck ND 58505**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Aug. 31, 2012**

Contact: LuWanna Lawrence, Public Information Officer, 701-328-1892

**Autism Spectrum Disorder Task Force to Meet Sept. 12 in Bismarck**

BISMARCK, N.D. – The Autism Spectrum Disorder Task Force will meet Wednesday, Sept. 12, 2012, from 10:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. in Conference Room 1 at West Central Human Service Center, 1237 W. Divide Ave., Suite 5, in Bismarck.

The North Dakota Legislature created the task force in 2009 to examine early intervention and family support services for individuals with autism spectrum disorder to help them remain in their homes and communities.

Agenda items include discussion of the recent Human Services Interim Committee autism agenda item, autism spectrum disorder waiver, and task force action items. Other business may also be discussed.

Council members are appointed by the governor and include representatives from the mental health profession, developmental disabilities system, state agencies, legislators, educators, and family members. JoAnne Hoesel, director of the N.D. Department of Human Services' Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services Division, chairs the task force.

For more information on the task force, go online to [www.governor.nd.gov/boards/boards-query.asp?Board\\_ID=159](http://www.governor.nd.gov/boards/boards-query.asp?Board_ID=159), or call 701-328-8920, toll-free 1-800-755-2719 or ND Relay TTY 1-800-366-6888.

###