

# **NEWS from the North Dakota Department of Human Services**

## **600 East Boulevard Avenue, Bismarck ND 58505**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Feb. 13, 2014**

Contacts: LuWanna Lawrence, Public Information Officer, 701-328-1892 or Heather Steffl, Public Information Manager, 701-328-4933

### **Statewide Independent Living Council to Meet Feb. 20 and 21 in Fargo**

BISMARCK, N.D. – The N.D. Department of Human Services' Statewide Independent Living Council will meet on Thurs., Feb. 20, 2014, from 1 to 5 p.m. and Fri., Feb. 21, from 9 a.m. to noon in Fargo at the Holiday Inn, 3803 13<sup>th</sup> Ave. S. The public is invited to participate in this meeting.

The council meets quarterly to provide guidance and support the implementation of the State Plan for Independent Living and the services offered by the Centers for Independent Living. The council also promotes policies, programs, and activities that maximize the independence of people with disabilities.

Agenda items include reports from the council's various committees including internal and external affairs, governance, and the N.D. State Rehabilitation Council. There will also be reports from Centers for Independent Living directors, a self-assessment completed by members on council involvement, and a progress report on the council's state plan.

There will be two guest speakers participating in the council's meeting. On Thurs., Feb. 20, at 2 p.m., Sara Wiederholt from Southeast Human Service Center will discuss services for homeless individuals, and on Fri., Feb. 21, at 9 a.m., Sen. Tyler Axness from Fargo will provide a legislative update relating to independent living services for people with disabilities. A complete agenda is online at [www.nd.gov/dhs/info/publicnotice/2014/1-29-silc.pdf](http://www.nd.gov/dhs/info/publicnotice/2014/1-29-silc.pdf).

Individuals needing auxiliary aids or services to participate in the meeting can call Helen Baumgartner at 701-328-8954, toll free 800-755-2745, ND Relay TTY 800-366-6888 or [hbaumgartner@nd.gov](mailto:hbaumgartner@nd.gov).

Council members are appointed by the Governor. They include consumers and administrators from the Centers for Independent Living, people with disabilities, representatives from the N.D. Department of Human Services' Aging Services and Vocational Rehabilitation divisions, and individuals from the N.D. Tribal 121 Projects, which provide vocational rehabilitation services to American Indians with disabilities.

For information on the Statewide Independent Living Council, go online to [http://governor.nd.gov/boards/boards-query.asp?Board\\_ID=52](http://governor.nd.gov/boards/boards-query.asp?Board_ID=52) or contact the N.D. Department of Human Services, Division of Vocational Rehabilitation at 701-328-8950, toll-free 800-755-2745, or ND Relay TTY 800-366-6888.

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