

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

**600 East Boulevard Avenue – Department 325, Bismarck ND 58505-0250**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**March 12, 2014**

Contact: Public Information Office - Heather Steffl, 701-328-4933 or LuWanna Lawrence, 701-328-1892

## **Agency Seeks Input on Vocational Rehabilitation Employment Services**

*The public is invited to meetings in Devils Lake and Bismarck*

BISMARCK, N.D. – The N.D. Department of Human Services' Division of Vocational Rehabilitation and the N.D. State Rehabilitation Council are sponsoring community meetings in Devils Lake and Bismarck to gather comments and insight into vocational rehabilitation employment services for people with disabilities.

The Devils Lake meeting will take place on Tues., April 1, 2014, from 2 to 4 p.m., at the Lake Region Public Library, 423 Seventh St. N.E., and the Bismarck meeting will be held on Wed., April 2, from 2 to 4 p.m. at the Capitol, in the Pioneer Room, Judicial Wing, 600 E. Boulevard Ave.

“Every year we host community meetings to hear directly from stakeholders, providers, and others interested in vocational rehabilitation needs in the state,” said Russ Cusack, director of the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation. “The feedback we collect helps identify program priorities for the upcoming year.”

Individuals who need accommodations to participate in the Devils Lake meeting, should contact Nancy Lundon at 701-665-2235, toll free 888-607-8610, or ND Relay TTY 800-366-6888 by March 24. Individuals needing accommodations for the Bismarck meeting should call Tom Schiwal at 701-328-8800, toll free 888-862-7342, or ND Relay TTY 800-366-6888 by March 25.

Written comments will also be accepted until 5 p.m. (Central Time) on Thurs., April 3, 2014. They can be sent to Vicki Magill, N.D. Department of Human Services' Division of Vocational Rehabilitation, 1237 W. Divide Ave., Suite 1B, Bismarck, ND 58501 or [vmagill@nd.gov](mailto:vmagill@nd.gov).

North Dakota is a leader in the employment of people with disabilities. The Vocational Rehabilitation program offers training and employment support services that help people with disabilities become and remain employed. It also assists business owners and employers in finding solutions to disability-related issues. Information is also online at [www.nd.gov/dhs/dvr/index.html](http://www.nd.gov/dhs/dvr/index.html).

The Vocational Rehabilitation State Plan is online at [www.nd.gov/dhs/dvr/policies/state.html](http://www.nd.gov/dhs/dvr/policies/state.html). It can also be obtained by calling 701-328-8950, toll free 800-755-2745, or ND Relay TTY 800-366-6888.

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