

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

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Statewide Independent Living Council to Meet May 8-9 in Bismarck

BISMARCK, N.D. – The N.D. Department of Human Services' Statewide Independent Living Council will meet on Thurs., May 8, 2014, from 1 to 5 p.m. and on Fri., May 9 from 9 a.m. to noon at the Hampton Inn, 2020 Schafer Street, Bismarck, N.D. The public is invited to participate in the 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 independence of people with disabilities.

Agenda items include presentations on the Medicaid expansion and transition services for youth with disabilities, committee reports, updates to the State Plan for Independent Living, and discussion on how council members can work together to identify and meet the independent living needs of people with disabilities statewide. A complete agenda is online at www.nd.gov/dhs/info/publicnotice/index.html.

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.

The governor appoints council members. 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 provides 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 or contact the N.D. Department of Human Services' Division of Vocational Rehabilitation at 701-328-8950, toll-free 1-800-755-2745, or ND Relay TTY 1-800-366-6888.

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