

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

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
May 28, 2014**

For more information, contact: Heather Steffl at 701-328-4933 or LuWanna Lawrence at 701-328-1892.

North Central Human Service Center hires mental health professionals to serve New Town and Stanley

BISMARCK, N.D. – The N.D. Department of Human Services' North Central Human Service Center in Minot, N.D., has hired John Butgereit and Melissa Gartner to provide mental health outreach services to Mountrail County residents.

Butgereit is a licensed professional counselor and will provide counseling services on Mondays at the human service center's outreach office at 18 2nd Ave. S.E., Stanley, N.D. Butgereit has a master's degree in counseling from Boise State University and worked as a therapist at Intermountain Hospital in Idaho prior to joining the department. He will work with adults and older teens affected by depression, anxiety, adjustment issues, trauma, or grief and loss. At the Stanley office, he joins counselor Heather Kippen who specializes in child behavioral health issues.

Licensed professional clinical counselor Gartner will provide counseling services on Thursdays to adults and children at the center's outreach office at 228 Eagle Drive in New Town, N.D. Gartner earned her master's degree in counseling from the University of North Dakota. She has seven years of experience as a therapist and previously worked at the department's Badlands Human Service Center in Dickinson.

To schedule an appointment with Butgereit, Gartner, or Kippen, call North Central Human Service Center at 701-857-8500, toll free 888-470-6968, or ND Relay TTY 800-366-6888.

The regional human service center provides counseling and mental health services, substance abuse treatment, disability services, and other human services directly or through partnerships with county social service offices and other providers.

The center employs about 120 people, and serves about 3,400 individuals a year from its main location in Minot and outreach offices in Bottineau, Rugby, Stanley, and New Town. Information is online at www.nd.gov/dhs/locations/regionalhsc/northcentral/index.html.

###