

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

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
November 2, 2015**

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

**Citizen council that advises state on mental health and
substance abuse services will meet Nov. 6 in Bismarck**

BISMARCK, N.D. – A citizen advisory council that monitors, plans, and advises the state on behavioral health services will meet Nov. 6, from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m., at the Comfort Inn, 1030 E. Interstate Ave., in Bismarck. The public is welcome to attend the meeting.

The Mental Health and Substance Abuse Planning Council meeting agenda includes a public comment period, election of officers, review and approval of applications for membership, council restructuring, subcommittee updates, and the 2016 meeting schedule.

In addition, members will hear updates on the legislature's Interim Human Services Committee, the Behavioral Health Stakeholders Summit, Olmstead Commission activities, brain injury services, and Partnerships for Success. The meeting also includes an Assertive Community Treatment presentation, a Consumer and Family Network report, and recovery center updates.

The council may discuss other business, as well as the agenda for its next meeting. The complete agenda is online at www.nd.gov/dhs/info/publicnotice/index.html.

Individuals with disabilities who need accommodations, including auxiliary aids to participate in the meeting, can contact Julie Huwe at 701-328-8920, toll-free 800-755-2719, ND Relay TTY 800-366-6888, or jhuwe@nd.gov.

The governor appoints council members. They include people who have first-hand knowledge of behavioral health services, their family members, other advocates, and representatives from state agencies, county social services, and public and private behavioral health service providers.

Council information can be found at www.nd.gov/dhs/services/mentalhealth/ndmhpc/index.html, or is available by contacting Lauren Sauer in the North Dakota Department of Human Services Behavioral Health Division at 701-328-8920, toll-free 800-755-2719, ND Relay TTY 800-366-6888, or lsauer@nd.gov.

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