

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

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
February 3, 2015**

Contacts: Heather Steffl at 701-328-4933 or LuWanna Lawrence at 701-328-1892.

## **Council seeks ideas to support health and wellness**

BISMARCK, N.D. – This February, the State Council on Developmental Disabilities would like to hear from individuals and organizations about where to target funding to hit its goal of improving health and access to health care for people with disabilities. The council is hosting a video conference meeting at eight sites in North Dakota on Friday, Feb. 13, 2015, from 2:30 to 4 p.m. CST to collect stakeholders' ideas about improving access through information, resources, and agency collaboration.

"We would like to hear from individuals with intellectual or developmental disabilities, their family members, health care and other service providers, community partners, advocates, and others about important health and access issues we should target," said council Executive Director Cheryl Hess.

Interested individuals can attend the meeting at the following locations:

- Bismarck: Department of Human Services' Prairie Hills Plaza location, 1237 W. Divide Ave., Suite 1B, Prairie Rose Room;
- Devils Lake: Lake Region Human Service Center, 200 Highway 2 S.W., Room E;
- Dickinson: Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Regional Office, 1674 15<sup>th</sup> St. W., Unit E, Badlands Conference Room;
- Fargo: Southeast Human Service Center, 2624 Ninth Ave. S., Red River Room;
- Grand Forks: Northeast Human Service Center, 151 S. Fourth St., Room 5E;
- Jamestown: South Central Human Service Center, 520 Third St. N.W., Room 317;
- Minot: North Central Human Service Center, 1015 S. Broadway, Suite 18, Room 411; and
- Williston: Northwest Human Service Center, 316 Second Ave. W., Room A200.

Hess said topics that may be discussed include dental health, behavioral health, primary health care, barriers, health promotion, healthy lifestyle education, risk behaviors, injury and illness prevention, and others.

"We want participants to consider these and other topics and to offer suggestions on how the council can promote and support health," Hess said.

The council awards grants that support state plan goals by funding innovative projects and services that enhance opportunities for people with developmental disabilities and their families.

Individuals who need accommodations to participate or would like more information can contact Hess at 701-328-4847, ND Relay TTY 800-366-6888, or [chess@nd.gov](mailto:chess@nd.gov).

The council consists of 20 members appointed by the governor. Information is online at [www.ndcpd.org/SCDD/](http://www.ndcpd.org/SCDD/).

###