

**NEWS from the North Dakota Department of Human Services
600 E. Boulevard Ave., Bismarck ND 58505-02501**

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New transitional living facility to serve people in Devils Lake region

BISMARCK, N.D. – The North Dakota Department of Human Services' Lake Region Human Service Center (LRHSC) in Devils Lake, N.D., has contracted with Progress Inc., to provide a new transitional living program for people with serious mental illness who receive services from the human service center.

The program, which will be staffed around the clock and able to serve up to eight adults at a time, will be located in the former Movie Gallery business on Sixth Avenue N.E. Authorities have notified neighboring property owners.

“This program fills a gap in local services,” Lake Region Human Service Center Director Kate Kenna said. “It will provide people with a place to live while they strengthen social skills and learn other skills they need to live successfully on their own such as cooking, cleaning, managing money, finding transportation, finding paid or volunteer work, and staying safe.”

Kenna said the new program is expected to open later this year.

The adults who qualify for the transitional living program may be at the facility from nine to 18 months as they learn and practice new skills and obtain housing in the community.

LRHSC serves about 2,400 people per year in the six-county region. Staff members provide behavioral health services and other human services directly or in partnerships with county social services and other agencies.

Information about LRHSC and its programs and services is available online at www.nd.gov/dhs/locations/regionalhsc/lakeregion/index.html or by contacting the center at 701-665-2200, toll-free 888-607-8610, TTY 701-665-2211, or dhslrhsc@nd.gov.

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