

**NEWS from the North Dakota Department of Human Services
600 E. Boulevard Ave. – Dept 325, Bismarck ND 58505-0250**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Northeast Human Service Center hosts meetings on services

BISMARCK, N.D. – The North Dakota Department of Human Services' Northeast Human Service Center is hosting meetings on Monday, Sept. 14, 2015, with its regional advisory group and community partners working to coordinate behavioral health services.

The **Community Coordinating Committee on Mental Health**, which includes treatment and service providers, and representatives from county social services, law enforcement, and other agencies, will meet at 10 a.m. in rooms 5D and 5E in the Grand Forks County Office building at 151 S. Fourth St.

Attendees will discuss transportation to the State Hospital. The human service center currently contracts with Altru Health System and Stadter Center to provide inpatient behavioral health care to clients. Other business, including an upcoming suicide prevention training sponsored by Grand Forks Public Health on Sept. 21, will also be discussed.

Northeast Human Service Center's Regional Advisory Group will meet from 4:30 to 6 p.m. at the same location. Members represent Grand Forks, Walsh, Pembina, and Nelson counties.

The staff will give a presentation on the Transition to Independence Program and will review the center's 2015-2017 budget. Center director Kate Kenna will report on human resource issues, detox services, the walk-in clinic, and the loan repayment program. She will also update members on the National Health Services Corp certification of the Grafton outreach office, the new Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders rollout, Valley Community Health Clinic's mental health services, and the upcoming licensing visit.

Other agenda items include staff appointments, the reappointment of advisory group members, and member updates and announcements. A complete agenda is online at www.nd.gov/dhs/info/publicnotice/index.html.

Both meetings are intended to promote community collaboration and communication. They are open to the public.

Individuals with disabilities who need accommodations to participate in either meeting or who have questions can contact Randy Slavens at 701-795-3010, toll-free 888-256-6742, or ND Relay TTY 800-366-6888 or rslavens@nd.gov.

Northeast Human Service Center information is available online at www.nd.gov/dhs/locations/regionalhsc/northeast/index.html.

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