

**NEWS from the North Dakota Department of Human Services
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Brown chosen to lead regional human service centers in Bismarck and Dickinson

BISMARCK, N.D. – The North Dakota Department of Human Services has promoted Brad Brown to regional director of its West Central Human Service Center (WCHSC) in Bismarck and Badlands Human Service Center (BLHSC) in Dickinson, N.D. He will assume responsibility for the programs, services, operations, and personnel at the two regional human service centers beginning December 12.

Brown is a licensed addiction counselor and clinical supervisor and has been the director of addiction treatment services at the department's Southeast Human Service Center (SEHSC) in Fargo since November 2011. Prior to joining SEHSC, he was the admissions and marketing director at ManorCare Health Services in Fargo, and before that he held various clinical and business development positions at Prairie St. John's in Fargo.

His work experience includes other public and private sector addiction treatment, supervision, leadership, marketing and business development positions. In addition, Brown serves in the North Dakota Army National Guard and is the Battalion Commander for the 2nd Training Battalion, 164th Regiment Regional Training Institute located at Camp Grafton in Devils Lake.

Brown, who grew up on a ranch north of Sentinel Butte, N.D., earned his bachelor's degree in addiction studies and business administration from Minot State University and a master's degree in business administration from the University of Mary.

Together, WCHSC and BLHSC serve the residents of 18 counties in North Dakota. Annually, staffs at the two centers provide individual, family and group therapy, medication management, case management and care coordination, evaluations and assessments, emergency services and other services to an estimated 5,700 individuals with mental health needs and substance use disorders.

Staff members also provide vocational rehabilitation counseling and services, developmental disability program management services, aging services including vulnerable adult protective services, and direction and oversight of some services offered through county social service offices and other providers.

Brown said his initial priorities include preparing for the upcoming legislative session, participating in regional assessments to review services and outreach, needs, and gaps; supporting quality management of all primary and core services; and fostering community collaboration. He will also focus on implementing new department initiatives such as Assertive Community Treatment, Illness Management Recovery, Open Access, and Dual Diagnosis Capability in Addiction Treatment to support integrated care and treatment.

Human service center information is available online at www.nd.gov/dhs/locations/regionalhsc/.

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