

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

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Informational Meeting for Direct Care Workers to be Held in Grand Forks

BISMARCK, N.D. - The North Dakota Department of Human Services' Medical Services Division will hold an informational meeting in Grand Forks on Tues., March 22, 2016, from 10 a.m. to Noon for current qualified service providers and anyone interested in being an in-home caregiver for older adults and people with disabilities. The meeting is at Grand Forks County Social Services, 151 South Fourth St., second floor south conference room.

Qualified service providers are friends, neighbors, family members, and others who provide in-home care to older adults and people with disabilities so they can continue to live in their own homes and communities.

The meetings will include an interactive online demonstration on how to complete enrollment forms and billing documents, an overview of programs and services available through the department that support independent living, and a review of provider rates and reimbursement requirements. There will also be discussion about how to become a qualified service provider, as well as the responsibilities associated with being a caregiver.

People interested in attending the meeting are encouraged to preregister by calling Susan McNeil, direct service workforce development coordinator, at 701-328-4090, toll free 800-755-2604, ND Relay TTY 800-366-6888 or 711, or smcneil@nd.gov.

"There is always a need for qualified services providers, especially in rural communities in North Dakota," said Karen Tescher, assistant director of the Long-Term Care Continuum for the North Dakota Department of Human Services.

To learn more about being a qualified services provider, go to www.CaringJobs.ND.gov. This new website features information about job duties, pay and benefits, frequently asked questions, and a video highlighting the experiences of people providing services for clients as qualified service providers.

Tescher said there are about 200 qualified service providers in Grand Forks County.

Individuals interested in working as a qualified service provider should contact their local county social service office. People can also call the North Dakota Department of Human Services toll-free at 1-855-GO2-LINK (855-462-5465) select option 3, ND Relay TTY 800-366-6888 or 711.

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