

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

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

Two Human Services Employees Honored for Their Work with Children and Families

BISMARCK, N.D. – Two North Dakota Department of Human Services employees have been honored with a lifetime membership award from the North Dakota Family Based Services Association. Julie Hoffman, adoption services administrator in Bismarck, and Joan Shulind, advanced clinical specialist at Northeast Human Service Center in Grand Forks, were nominated by their peers for their outstanding service to children and families.

Hoffman oversees the adoption program for the department's Children and Family Services Division, a position she has held for nearly 20 years. She facilitates foster care adoptions, adoption subsidies, post-adoption services, and adoption search programming.

Prior to joining the department, Hoffman worked in the child welfare field at McKenzie County Social Services in Watford City and West Central Human Service Center in Bismarck. Hoffman received the national *Angels in Adoption* award in 2008 for her work in the adoption, foster care, and child welfare community.

Hoffman is a licensed social worker with a degree in social work from the University of North Dakota (UND).

Shulind joined Northeast Human Service Center in 2006 and works with adolescents and adults with mental health issues and their families who reside in Grand Forks, Nelson, Pembina, and Walsh counties.

She has nearly four decades of experience providing services and support to children and families through the Sacred Heart Schools in East Grand Forks, M.N., Village Family Service Center in Grand Forks, and Polk County Social Services, where she piloted a school-based program to serve children and families.

Shulind has a master's degree in clinical counseling from UND and is a licensed professional clinical counselor and a certified counselor supervisor in North Dakota.

The North Dakota Family Based Services Association has over 300 members and advocates for the development and expansion of family-based services while providing professional development, networking opportunities, and support for child welfare professionals.

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