

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

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Consultants to meet with Bismarck region stakeholders on alcohol and other drug intoxication and withdrawal management services

BISMARCK, N.D. – Behavioral health stakeholders from the Bismarck region are meeting Tuesday, May 3, 2016, to discuss opportunities to improve, enhance, and expand access to intoxication and withdrawal management (social and medical detoxification) services throughout Region 7. The meeting is from 8 a.m. to noon, Central Time, in the Pioneer Room in the Judicial Wing of the Capitol, at 612 E. Boulevard Ave., in Bismarck.

The North Dakota Department of Human Services' Behavioral Health Division (DHS) requested and is receiving technical assistance from the federal Department of Health and Human Services' Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). National consultants with expertise in withdrawal management services are partnering with the department to assess the region's capacity to assist individuals who may need services to address intoxication and withdrawal from mind-altering substances.

At Tuesday's meeting, the consultants will present the results of their withdrawal management assessment and will provide preliminary recommendations for Region 7. Community members throughout the region and state are invited to attend.

The meeting is open to the public, and details are online at www.nd.gov/dhs/info/publicnotice/index.html.

For the assessment, consultants met with individuals and organizations representing the medical field, law enforcement, and community providers throughout the region to understand existing practices and to explore the region's capacity for building effective, collaborative, safe, and sustainable protocols and services aimed at intoxication and withdrawal management.

Individuals who need accommodations, including auxiliary aids, to participate can contact Julie Huwe in the DHS Behavioral Health Division at 701-328-8920, toll-free 800-755-2719, ND Relay TTY 800-366-6888, or jhuwe@nd.gov.

Region 7 is a ten-county administrative area that includes Burleigh, Emmons, Grant, Kidder, McLean, Mercer, Morton, Oliver, Sheridan, and Sioux counties, the Standing Rock Indian Reservation, and part of the Fort Berthold Indian Reservation.

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