

**NEWS from the North Dakota Department of Human Services  
600 E. Boulevard Ave., Bismarck ND 58505**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**June 1, 2016**

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## **Autism Spectrum Disorder Task Force to meet June 6**

BISMARCK, N.D. – North Dakota's Autism Spectrum Disorder Task Force will meet Monday, June 6, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. CDT, in Bismarck and via video conference sites across the state to discuss developments in services for children with autism spectrum disorders and their families.

The meeting is open to the public and will originate from the North Dakota Department of Health's Conference Room 212, located on the second floor of the Judicial Wing, State Capitol, 600 E. Boulevard Ave., in Bismarck.

Advocates, parents, and other interested individuals can also participate at these remote sites:

- **Devils Lake:** Lake Region Human Service Center, 200 Hwy 2 W., North Meeting Room;
- **Dickinson:** Regional Vocational Rehabilitation Office, 1674 15th St. W., Unit E;
- **Fargo:** Southeast Human Service Center, 2624 Ninth Ave. S., Red River Room;
- **Grafton:** Life Skills and Transition Center, 701 W. Sixth St., West Conference Center;
- **Grand Forks:** Northeast Human Service Center, 151 S. Fourth St., Suite 401, Room 5E;
- **Jamestown:** South Central Human Service Center, 520 Third St. N.W., Room 317;
- **Minot:** North Central Human Service Center, 1015 S. Broadway, Suite 18, Room 411 and Minot State University, Memorial Hall, 500 University Ave. W., Room 207; and
- **Williston:** Northwest Human Service Center, 316 Second Ave. W., Room B200.

At the meeting, members will discuss data collection for the National Autism Leadership Collaborative's collective impact quality indicators. Department of Health representatives will provide updates on the database, resource booklet, and diagnostic clinics.

A representative from the Department of Public Instruction will share information about the Treatment and Education of Autistic and Related Communication Handicapped Children (TEAACH) training. The North Dakota Protection and Advocacy Project will share information about abuse, neglect, and exploitation training for autism waiver providers, and seclusion and restraint in schools.

Representatives from multiple Department of Human Services divisions will provide updates. The Autism Services Unit of the department's Medical Services Division will report on the Medicaid waiver, voucher program, Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnosis, and Treatment (EPSDT) program, fall conference, and the program specialist position.

Task force members will also have an opportunity to provide updates. Members of the public can comment on autism-related issues during a designated public comment period from 12 to 12:30 p.m. A complete agenda is online at [www.nd.gov/dhs/info/publicnotice/index.html](http://www.nd.gov/dhs/info/publicnotice/index.html).

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People with disabilities who need accommodations, including auxiliary aids, to participate in the meeting can contact Trisha Page at 701-328-8949, toll-free 800-755-2719, ND Relay TTY 800-366-6888, or [tpage@nd.gov](mailto:tpage@nd.gov).

The legislature created the task force in 2009, and members are appointed by the governor. Information is online at <http://governor.nd.gov/boards/BoardDetails.aspx?boardid=131>.

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