

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

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
June 10, 2016**

For information, contact Heather Steffl at 701-328-4933 or LuWanna Lawrence at 701-328-1892.

State Mental Health and Substance Abuse Planning Council meeting is June 22

BISMARCK, N.D. – The North Dakota Mental Health and Substance Abuse Planning Council, which advises the North Dakota Department of Human Services (DHS) on behavioral health needs and services, is meeting June 22 in Bismarck. Members will meet from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Central Time, in the Brynhild Haugland Room at the Capitol at 600 E. Boulevard Ave. The public is welcome to attend, and the agenda includes a public comment period shortly after introductions.

Council members will hear updates on extended services, other employment services and supports, housing, and the Money Follows the Person project that provides transition assistance to qualifying people with disabilities who are moving from an institution to community living.

Attendees will also receive an update on the regional human service center contracts and will review recommendations provided by the 10 Key Points Subcommittee. The Consumer and Family Network will report on network activities.

The council may discuss other business. The complete agenda is available online at www.nd.gov/dhs/info/publicnotice/2016/6-22-nd-mental-health-substance-abuse-planning-council-meeting.pdf.

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

Council members are appointed by the governor. They represent people with first-hand knowledge of behavioral health services, their family members, other advocates, agencies, county social services, and public and private behavioral health service providers.

Council information is online at www.nd.gov/dhs/services/mentalhealth/ndmhpc/index.html, or is available by contacting Lauren Sauer in the DHS Behavioral Health Division at 701-328-8920, toll-free 800-755-2719, Relay ND TTY 800-366-6888, or lsauer@nd.gov.

###