

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

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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### **Southeast Human Service Center advisory group is meeting Nov. 14 in Fargo**

BISMARCK, N.D. – Information about local center operations and statewide goals and initiatives benefitting individuals served by the public behavioral health system will be discussed, along with other topics, when the Southeast Human Service Center (SEHSC) advisory group meets Wednesday, Nov. 14 at 1 p.m., at 2624 Ninth Ave. S. in Fargo. The meeting is open to the public.

The agenda also includes an update on the electronic health record system implementation, efforts to obtain accreditation from an independent accrediting body as part of the eight regional centers' licensing and plans for enhancing behavioral health crisis and emergency response services statewide.

Center leaders will share 2017 statewide customer satisfaction survey results, including that nine out of 10 respondents would recommend their local regional human service center to a friend or family member, were satisfied with wait times for appointments, said service locations were convenient and services were available at times that met their needs. Many survey respondents also reported improvements in their housing situation and ability to deal with a crisis and take care of their own needs, which are important recovery goals.

Center leaders will also brief advisory group members on staffing changes, the North Dakota Behavioral Health System Implementation Plan, and other initiatives underway to help assure individuals receive the right services at the right time to improve their outcomes and support their ongoing recovery. The agenda is available online at [www.nd.gov/dhs/info/publicnotice/index.html](http://www.nd.gov/dhs/info/publicnotice/index.html).

Individuals who need accommodations to participate in the meeting can contact Allison Wegner at 701-298-4401, toll-free 888-342-4900, Relay ND TTY 800-366-6888 or [awegner@nd.gov](mailto:awegner@nd.gov).

SEHSC employs about 185 people. During the 2017 State Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2018, SEHSC provided behavioral health services to 3,936 registered clients. The center served additional individuals who did not become clients or receive ongoing services and support.

Staff members provide community-based behavioral health services to individuals who have limited resources and severe and chronic behavioral health needs. Behavioral health services focus on chronic disease management and emergency services. Walk-in behavioral health assessments (no appointments needed) are offered Tuesdays and Thursdays from 12:30 to 3 p.m., and Wednesdays from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.

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Other department employees based at North Dakota's regional human service centers provide case management services for individuals with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities, vulnerable adult protective services and other services for older adults, vocational rehabilitation services to help people with disabilities achieve their employment goals, and oversight of child and family services provided by the counties.

Center services are listed online at [www.nd.gov/dhs/locations/regionalhsc/docs/hsc-core-services.pdf](http://www.nd.gov/dhs/locations/regionalhsc/docs/hsc-core-services.pdf) and may be provided directly by staff or through partnerships with county social services and contracts with other providers based on regional needs and available community resources.

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