

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

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
Feb. 21, 2018**

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**State Plan on Aging public comment meeting in New Town rescheduled**  
*Input sought at upcoming community meetings and via online survey*

BISMARCK, N.D. – The North Dakota Department of Human Services is rescheduling the public comment meeting on the State Plan on Aging originally set for Feb. 22 in New Town. The meeting has been rescheduled to March 7 at 11 a.m. at the Northern Lights Building in New Town. Area residents are invited to attend and comment on services for older adults and adults with physical disabilities, which help them remain living independently in their homes and communities.

People age 60 and older, family caregivers, advocates, service providers and other interested individuals are encouraged to attend. Comments will be used to update the plan the state submits to the federal government outlining the priorities and services the state will support with its federal Older Americans Act dollars.

Individuals who are unable to attend can also provide input on the 2018 North Dakota State Plan on Aging by completing a survey online at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/NQB2NYV>.

The department has scheduled these additional public meetings:

- Feb. 27: **Wahpeton**: 12:30 to 1:30 p.m., Wahpeton Senior Center, 520 Third Ave. S.;
- Feb. 28: **Fargo**: 12:30 to 1:30 p.m., Ed Clapp Senior Center, 2801 32<sup>nd</sup> Ave. S., Carlson Library Community Room;
- March 1: **Langdon**: 1 to 2 p.m., Langdon Senior Center, 211 Eighth Ave.;
- March 2: **Belcourt**: 1 to 2 p.m., Turtle Mountain Retirement Home, Hwy. 5 and St. Anne's Road;
- March 5: **Grand Forks**: 1 to 2 p.m., Grand Forks Senior Center, 620 Fourth Ave. S.; and
- March 6: **Bismarck**: 12:30 to 1:30 p.m., Burleigh County Senior Center, 315 N. 20<sup>th</sup> St.

Federal Older Americans Act funds help pay for home-delivered meals and meals at senior meal sites, senior legal assistance, assistive safety devices like grab bars; health maintenance services such as blood pressure screenings, foot care and medication setup; a toll-free information and assistance phone line and website to help people find services; and the senior companion program.

Other division programs and services include the Family Caregiver Support Program, senior employment and training, the Dementia Care Services Program, Long-Term Care Ombudsman services promoting the rights and well-being of people living in long-term care facilities, and protective services for vulnerable adults at risk of abuse, neglect or exploitation. The division also administers home and community-based services that enable qualifying individuals with functional limitations to live in their homes and communities.

Individuals who need accommodations to participate in the meeting should contact Sheryl Pfliger through the division's Aging and Disability Resource LINK line toll-free at 855-GO2-LINK (855-462-5465), ND Relay TTY 800-366-6888 or by emailing her at [spfliger@nd.gov](mailto:spfliger@nd.gov) prior to the meeting.

Individuals unable to attend a meeting **can submit written comments by March 15, 2018**, to the North Dakota Department of Human Services' Aging Services Division, 1237 W. Divide Ave., Suite 6, Bismarck, N.D. 58501, or [dhsaging@nd.gov](mailto:dhsaging@nd.gov).

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