

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

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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## **Autism Spectrum Disorder Task Force members to meet May 14**

BISMARCK, N.D. – North Dakota’s Autism Spectrum Disorder Task Force will meet Monday, May 14, from 1 to 5 p.m. Central Time to discuss a variety of topics relating to services and supports available for people with autism spectrum disorders (ASD) and their families.

The task force meeting is open to the public and will originate from the North Dakota Department of Human Services’ Prairie Hills Plaza location in the Prairie Room, 1237 W. Divide Ave., in Bismarck. Attendees should enter through Door 2 facing Divide Avenue.

Department of Human Services representatives will brief members on the current participation in autism spectrum disorder services, related expenditures, ASD voucher administrative code changes, and the process underway to develop the department’s 2019-2021 budget. Work groups will provide updates and discuss the state plan, a potential survey of stakeholders and out-of-home placements.

Members will discuss services in rural areas and Medicaid Applied Behavior Analysis services. If time permits, members may also discuss proposed program changes reducing or eliminating wait times for services, ideas for enhancing program eligibility determination training, and funding support for the annual autism spectrum disorder conference.

The meeting agenda is available online at [www.nd.gov/dhs/info/publicnotice/index.html](http://www.nd.gov/dhs/info/publicnotice/index.html).

### **Advocates, parents and other interested individuals can participate at these sites:**

- **Devils Lake:** Lake Region Human Service Center, 200 Hwy 2 W., North Meeting Room;
- **Dickinson:** Badlands Human Service Center, 300 13th Ave. W., Suite 1, Basement Conference Room;
- **Fargo:** Job Service North Dakota office, 1350 32nd St. S., Room CD;
- **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 C519;
- **Jamestown:** State Hospital, LRC/Administration Building, 2605 Circle Dr., Room 320;
- **Minot:** North Central Human Service Center, 1015 S. Broadway, Suite 18, Room 411; and
- **Williston:** Northwest Human Service Center, 316 Second Ave. W., Room A200.

People who would like information about joining the meeting via conference call, or who need accommodations to participate should contact Krista Fremming prior to the meeting at 701-328-2342, toll-free 800-755-2719, ND Relay TTY 800-366-6888 or [krfremming@nd.gov](mailto:krfremming@nd.gov).

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The legislature created the task force in 2009, and members are appointed by the governor.

The task force is responsible for reviewing early intervention and family support services that can enable individuals with autism spectrum disorder to live in home-based or community settings, and programs helping individuals with autism spectrum disorder to transition from a school-based setting to adult services and workforce development programs. In addition, the task force monitors the provision of services and federal resources that can be directed toward services, and also reviews, amends and updates the state plan to better meet the needs of individuals with autism spectrum disorder.

The department provides information about its autism spectrum disorder services online at [www.nd.gov/dhs/autism/index.html](http://www.nd.gov/dhs/autism/index.html). The public can find task force information online at [www.nd.gov/dhs/autism/taskforce.html](http://www.nd.gov/dhs/autism/taskforce.html).

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