

NEWS RELEASE | **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE** | Feb. 19, 2020

Autism Task Force to meet Feb. 24 to discuss using telehealth to provide applied behavior analysis services in rural areas and more

BISMARCK, N.D. – North Dakota’s Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) Task Force will meet Monday, Feb. 24, from 1 to 4:45 p.m. Central Time to discuss using telehealth technology to provide applied behavior analysis services to children with autism spectrum disorders in rural areas.

The agenda also includes discussion on the upcoming North Dakota Autism Conference April 29-30 in Bismarck and the Advancing Students Toward Education and Employment Program offered by the North Dakota Center for Persons with Disabilities at Minot State University. Dr. Myra Quanrud, a pediatrician from Jamestown, will share information about a hub of experts who can share knowledge with providers who are working with families.

Members will hear updates on changes to behavior analyst licensing, a possible future loan repayment program for behavior analysts, service utilization and expenditures and options to increase the number of slots for the Medicaid ASD waiver. Other topics will also be discussed. The meeting agenda is available online at www.nd.gov/dhs/info/publicnotice/index.html.

The task force meeting is open to the public and will be held via [Skype video conference](#) originating from Great River Energy’s Fort Union Room East in Bismarck. Attendees should enter the Great River Energy building through the public entrance on the north side. Individuals unable to attend via Skype can join by conference call at 701-328-0950, passcode 247914351#.

People who need accommodations to participate should contact Krista Fremming prior to the meeting at 701-328-2342, toll-free 800-755-2719, 711 (TTY) or krfremming@nd.gov.

The legislature created the task force in 2009; members are appointed by the governor. The task force is responsible for reviewing early intervention and family support services that enable individuals with ASD to live at home or in community settings, and programs helping individuals with autism spectrum disorder to transition from school-based settings to adult services and workforce development programs. In addition, the task force monitors the provision of services, and reviews, amends and updates the state plan to better meet the needs of individuals with ASD.

Autism spectrum disorder services information is online at www.nd.gov/dhs/autism/index.html, and task force information is online at www.nd.gov/dhs/autism/taskforce.html.

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