

NEWS RELEASE | **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE** | May 22, 2020

Council holds public comment meeting on draft ND State Plan for Independent Living

BISMARCK, N.D. – The Statewide Independent Living Council and the four centers for independent living in North Dakota are co-hosting a public comment meeting on June 3 from 2:30 to 3:30 p.m. CT, on the draft State Plan for Independent Living for 2021-2023.

Due to COVID-19, the meeting will be held by telephone conference call. Participants can join by calling (701) 328-0950 and entering the conference ID: 632 555 74#.

Individuals who currently use or have used independent living center services to remain living in the community or to transition from institutional care, service providers, advocates and other stakeholders are invited to participate and provide comments and recommendations about the draft plan.

The plan outlines a three-year strategy to improve independent living services in North Dakota and is available to review online prior to the meeting on the Vocational Rehabilitation Divisions' home page www.nd.gov/dhs/dvr/, and on the websites of the centers for independent living: www.independencecil.org, www.myoptions.info, www.freedomrc.org, and www.dakotacil.org.

The agenda includes a review of the purpose of the state plan and the public comment meeting, followed by the public comment period.

Individuals unable to participate can review the draft plan online and can direct questions and comments to Aimee Volk, Vision and Independent Living Services Administrator, Vocational Rehabilitation Division, 1000 E. Divide Ave., Bismarck, ND 58501, 701-328-8954, or 711 (TTY) for TTY customers, or e-mail alvolk@nd.gov.

All comments must be received on or before June 3, 2020. The draft state plan will be available online until Wednesday, June 3, 2020.

Individuals who need accommodations to participate in the meeting can contact Aimee Volk, North Dakota Department of Human Services – Vocational Rehabilitation Division, at 701-328-8954, 711 (TTY) for TTY customers, or alvolk@nd.gov prior to the meeting.

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