

NEWS RELEASE | **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE** | July 20, 2020

Badlands Human Service Center in Dickinson to open at new location July 27; move allows for expanded behavioral health services

BISMARCK, N.D. – The North Dakota Department of Human Services' Badlands Human Service Center (BLHSC) in Dickinson will open at a new location at 1463 I-94 Business Loop E. on July 27. The center will be temporarily closed starting July 20 at 5 p.m. MT, through July 24 to move office furniture and other equipment.

Throughout the four-day office closure, the center will continue to provide telehealth and community-based behavioral health services to individuals and families in southwestern North Dakota. The center also operates a 24-hour crisis line that can be reached at 701-290-5719.

"We are really excited about moving to the former KLJ building," said Jessica Odermann, the center's director. "The office space will allow us to expand our behavioral health services. We will have more space for group therapy sessions, our expanded 24-hour behavioral health crisis team and additional designated telehealth rooms."

The seven-year-old, 24,000 square foot building has been remodeled slightly by the building's owner to better serve the needs of the human service center's clients and staff. The building is accessible and has ample parking.

Odermann said the center is notifying all active clients about the new location by mail and team members are also calling all active clients directly to inform them of the change.

Badlands Human Service Center has remained open during the COVID-19 pandemic to provide medically-necessary and crisis behavioral health services in-person and by telehealth. The center will continue to take proactive steps to keep clients and staff safe during the COVID-19 pandemic at its new location. Everyone is required to complete a temperature check, answer health screening questions upon arrival and follow all federal and state health and safety guidelines. Clients and staff are required to wear masks.

BLHSC provides community-based behavioral health services, disability-related services, and other human services directly or through partnerships with human service zones, formerly called county social services and other providers. It has 79 staff members and over half of them provide behavioral health services. From March 2019 to March 2020, the center served about 1,400 clients in the eight-county region of Adams, Billings, Bowman, Dunn, Hettinger, Golden Valley, Slope and Stark counties.

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