

NEWS RELEASE | **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE** | May 20, 2021

ND's Autism Task Force to meet May 24 to discuss voucher program, legislative session and more

BISMARCK, N.D. – The state's Autism Spectrum Disorder Task Force will meet Monday, May 24, from 1 to 4:30 p.m. Central Time to discuss administrative rule changes to the ASD Voucher program, the 2021 legislative session and other autism-related topics.

The meeting agenda also includes updates on workforce efforts, service utilization and expenditures and workgroup reports. Members will discuss collaboration efforts with the North Dakota Autism Spectrum Disorder Advocacy Coalition. A representative from the North Dakota Association for the Disabled will provide information on its [Autism Spectrum Assistance program](#).

Other topics will also be discussed. The meeting agenda is available online at www.nd.gov/dhs/info/publicnotice/index.html.

The meeting is open to the public. Interested individuals can attend in person at the North Dakota Heritage Center, Lecture Room A/B or virtually online through Microsoft Teams or by conference call at 701-328-0950; conference ID 12350618#. Details are in the [public meeting notice](#).

People who need accommodations to participate should contact Stacey Koehly prior to the meeting at 701-328-4807, toll-free 800-755-2719, 711 (TTY) or skoehly@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 ASD 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.

The department provides information about its ASD services online at www.nd.gov/dhs/autism/index.html. Task force information is online at www.nd.gov/dhs/autism/taskforce.html.

###

MEDIA CONTACTS:

LuWanna Lawrence | 701-328-1892
lklawrence@nd.gov

Heather Steffl | 701-328-4933
hsteffl@nd.gov