

NEWS RELEASE | **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE** | September 14, 2021

Agency hosts DOJ settlement agreement stakeholder meeting Sept. 16

Participants to discuss plans to strengthen access to in-home long-term care services and support.

BISMARCK, N.D. – The North Dakota Department of Human Services is hosting a stakeholder meeting on Sept. 16, from 1 to 3 p.m. CT, to discuss the implementation of the U.S. Department of Justice settlement agreement and to seek input on efforts to expand access to in-home and community-based services so that individuals with physical disabilities can live in home and community settings.

Department representatives will provide updates on the implementation plan, the subject matter expert six-month report and home and community-based services policy and will discuss implementation plan workgroups and stakeholder listening sessions. Other business may be discussed. Participating stakeholders will have an opportunity to ask questions and provide feedback.

The meeting will originate from the Prairie Rose Room in the department's Prairie Hills Plaza location, 1237 W. Divide Ave., Suite 6, Bismarck, N.D. Attendees should enter through Door 2. Face masks and physical distancing are recommended for in-person meeting attendees.

Older adults, individuals with physical disabilities, their family members, advocates, other stakeholders and interested individuals are invited to participate in the public meeting in person or virtually from computers, mobile devices or by telephone at 701-328-0950, Conference ID: 512 398 907#. The meeting agenda and details on joining the online meeting are available at www.nd.gov/dhs/info/publicnotice/2021/9-16-doj-settlement-agreement-stakeholder-meeting.pdf.

Individuals who need accommodations to participate in the meeting can contact Jacob Reuter at 701-680-9638, 711 (TTY) or jwreuter@nd.gov.

Announced in December 2020, the DOJ settlement agreement focuses on expanding access to in-home and community-based services so that individuals with physical disabilities can live in the least restrictive setting possible.

###

MEDIA CONTACTS:

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

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