

**NEWS from the North Dakota Department of Human Services
600 E. Boulevard Ave., Dept. 325, Bismarck, ND 58505**

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Agency offers training on new survey to monitor developmental disability services

BISMARCK, N.D. – The North Dakota Department of Human Services Developmental Disabilities Division is holding training in 10 communities in August on a new survey process it will begin using later this year to ensure people with developmental disabilities are receiving quality in-home and community-based waiver services.

“Our goal is to ensure that people are receiving services that address their individual needs, comply with their individualized service plans, and meet federal and state requirements,” said Developmental Disabilities Division Director Tina Bay.

The division invites people receiving developmental disabilities services, their family members, guardians, service providers, department staff, and others who may be involved in a survey to attend the training at select state video conferencing sites on August 3 from 1 to 3:30 p.m., CDT. Staff will repeat the same training on August 8 from 9:30 a.m. to noon, CDT.

At the training, participants will learn about the purpose of the survey, its development, the services that will be reviewed, performance measurements, compliance determinations, and the correction of any identified issues.

Training sites include:

- **Bismarck:** West Central Human Service Center, 1237 W. Divide Ave., Burleigh and Morton Rooms (Enter from Door 5 off of Schafer St.),
- **Devils Lake:** Lake Region Human Service Center, 200 Hwy 2 W., East Conference Room,
- **Dickinson:** Badlands Human Service Center, 300 13th Ave. W., Ste. 1, Basement Conference Room (The *Aug. 3 meeting is 12-2:30 p.m., MDT, and the Aug. 8 meeting is 8:30-11 a.m., MDT.*),
- **Fargo:** Southeast Human Service Center, 2624 Ninth Ave. S., DWAC Room,
- **Grafton:** Life Skills and Transition Center, 701 W. Sixth St., Conference Center West,
- **Grand Forks:** Northeast Human Service Center, 151 S. Fourth St., Room 5E,
- **Harvey:** St. Aloisius Medical Center, 325 E. Brewster St., Education Room,
- **Jamestown:** South Central Human Service Center, 520 Third St. N.W., Room 124,
- **Minot:** North Central Human Service Center, 1015 S. Broadway, Room 411,
- **Rolla:** Lake Region Human Service Center Outreach Office, 1002 Main Ave. W.,
- **Wahpeton:** Richland County Health Department, 413 Third Ave. N., Second Floor Conference Room, and
- **Williston:** Northwest Human Service Center, 316 Second Ave. W., Room A 200.

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“The new survey will enable us to formally monitor services and compliance with policies, procedures, and standards in a uniform way, on a system-wide level,” Bay said.

A surveyor will observe and interview people receiving services, their guardians, direct support professionals, other staff employed by service providers, and regional program administrators. The surveyor will also review randomly selected records on- and off-site to assure waiver services are provided appropriately.

Thirty-one organizations that provide developmental disability home and community-based waiver services in North Dakota will be participating in the survey process.

They provide residential services that support people living in their own homes and apartments in communities, as well as services provided in a community complex or group home, including training that supports community integration, social and leisure activities, and daily living skills.

Day support services, which are structured programs that help participants develop skills to live successfully in the community, will also be surveyed.

The division plans to survey one provider per month initially, beginning this fall.

Bay expressed appreciation for the 16-person work group that helped develop the new survey process. Work group members included service providers, division staff, staff from the department’s regional human service centers, and North Dakota Department of Health staff.

For questions about the new home and community-based waiver survey, contact the Developmental Disabilities Division at 701-328-8930, toll-free 800-755-8529, ND Relay TTY 711, or dhsddreq@nd.gov.

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