

NEWS from the North Dakota Department of Human Services
600 E Boulevard Ave, Bismarck ND 58505-0250

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
November 19, 2007

Contacts: Jake Reuter, Program Manager, N.D. Dept. of Human Services' Medical Services Division, 701-328-2321 or jwreuter@nd.gov, or Heather Steffl, Public Information Officer, N.D. Dept. of Human Services, 701-328-4933 or sosteh@nd.gov.

Initial Money Follows the Person grant stakeholder meeting is Nov. 20

BISMARCK – The North Dakota Department of Human Services is hosting the organizational meeting of stakeholders for the state's \$8.9 million Money Follows the Person grant, on Nov. 20, 2007, from 1 to 4 p.m. in the Pioneer Room, Judicial Wing of the State Capitol.

Grant funds will be used to help North Dakota plan for and successfully transition about 110 individuals from institutional care settings to home or community-based settings over the five-year grant period. In general, the grant will serve individuals who are elderly, have a physical disability, or a developmental disability and who also qualify for Medicaid and reside in an institutional setting, yet want to receive services in the community. Participation will be voluntary.

Department officials expect that about 40 stakeholders may participate in the initial and subsequent planning meetings over the next five months. The meetings are open to the public.

The November 20 meeting agenda includes: grant overview and time line, federal requirements for state operational protocols, Developmental Center Transition Plan update, Governor's Olmstead Commission report, Medicaid review, Website, housing needs, and barriers including staff shortages and service availability and gaps. Work groups will also be formed.

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