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

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE September 8, 2008

Contacts: JoAnne Hoesel, Director of the Division of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services, or Don Wright, Assistant Director of the Division of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services, 701-328-8920, or Heather Steffl, Public Information Officer, 701-328-4933

Summit features experts on Substance Abuse Treatment and Prevention

BISMARCK, N.D. – The North Dakota Department of Human Services says about 300 substance abuse prevention and treatment professionals from across the state have registered for the 2008 Alcohol and Substance Abuse Summit, set for Sept. 9-10 at the Seven Seas Inn and Conference Center in Mandan, ND.

"North Dakota treatment and prevention professionals are focused on effectively supporting individuals in their recovery and strengthening treatment and prevention efforts at the local level. This conference gives them the tools to do that by providing an opportunity to learn about evidence-based practices from recognized experts," said JoAnne Hoesel, director of the department's Division of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services.

Hoesel said experts will share information about using incentives to motivate behavior change, enhancing Native American cultural competencies of counselors, meeting the treatment needs of women, fitting treatment intervention models into North Dakota's treatment systems and settings, and other topics. The prevention track includes an overview of addiction and treatment, using community readiness survey results to strengthen local prevention efforts, trends in substance abuse, and signs and symptoms of usage including everyday household items.

For a schedule of presenters and topics including today's preconference workshop on supervisory skills visit: www.conted.und.edu/summit/schedule.html. To view the Alcohol and Drug Addiction Recovery Month proclamation issued by Governor Hoeven, see http://governor.nd.gov/proc/docs/2008/09/200809b.pdf.