

**NEWS from the North Dakota Department of Human Services  
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**Governor's Olmstead Commission to meet July 9 in Bismarck**

BISMARCK, N.D. – North Dakota's Olmstead Commission is meeting in Bismarck on Thursday, July 9, 2009, from 9 a.m. to noon in the Sakakawea Room of the Capitol. The public is welcome to attend.

Established by Gov. John Hoeven in 2001, the commission is responsible for state planning efforts that focus on serving people with disabilities in the least restrictive, appropriate setting. The commission's name and purpose are derived from the U.S. Supreme Court decision in *Olmstead vs. L.C.*, which in addressing discrimination under the Americans with Disabilities Act, supported community living options for people with disabilities.

Agenda items include an overview of the 2009-2011 N.D. Department of Human Services' budget for services for persons with disabilities, American Recovery and Reinvestment Act funding related to services for people with disabilities, the Olmstead Plan Workgroup report, and 2009 legislation related to the commission's work. The commission will also receive an update on the Northland Program of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly, which is a managed care program funded through the department to serve individuals in their homes and communities who have long-term care needs. The commission agenda also includes an update on a transportation pilot project and a report on a study of unmet transit needs.

The governor's Health and Human Services Policy Advisor, Tami Wahl, and N.D. Department of Human Services Executive Director, Carol K. Olson, co-chair the commission. Members are appointed by the governor. A list of members appears on the Boards and Commissions section of the Governor's Website at <http://governor.nd.gov/boards/>.

Information about the Olmstead Commission is on-line at [www.nd.gov/dhs/info/olmstead-commission.html](http://www.nd.gov/dhs/info/olmstead-commission.html). Individuals who need accommodations to participate or who have questions can contact Heather at 701-328-4933 or [hsteffl@nd.gov](mailto:hsteffl@nd.gov), or through ND Relay 711.

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