

Olmstead Conference: Reimagining What's Possible for Inclusion and Independence

July 20th, 2026

- 8:00 a.m. Registration, Breakfast, and Time with Vendors
- 8:30 a.m. Welcome and History of Olmstead
➤ Stephanie Bouche, Olmstead Coordinator, Protection and Advocacy Project
- 8:45 a.m. Department of Justice Settlement Agreement
➤ Nancy Nikolas Maier, Aging Services Director, HHS
- 9:15 a.m. Dakota Center for Independent Living
➤ Cody Kurtz, MFP Program Director, Dakota Center for Independent Living
- 9:30 a.m. Technology for Independence
➤ Jordan Wetsel, P&A Project Coordinator/ Workforce & Technology
○ ND Assistive and Warehouse 13/ CareConnect
- 9:45 a.m. Money Follows the Person Panel
➤ Brittany Berry, HCBS Team Lead, Adults and Aging Services
➤ Kylie Erickson, MFP Housing, Assistant State Housing Facilitator
➤ Cody Kurtz, MFP Program Director, Dakota Center for Independent Living
- 10:30 a.m. Supported Decision Making (Guardianship and Alternatives)
➤ Angie Dubovoy, Advocate, Protection and Advocacy Project
➤ Micah Olson, Attorney, Protection and Advocacy Project
- 11:00 a.m. Benefits Planning
➤ Amy Bergan, Benefit Planner, Rehab Services Inc.
- 11:30 a.m. Lunch with Vendors, Door Prize Drawing
- 1:00 p.m. Extended Reality (XR) for Vocational Rehabilitation (VR)
➤ Loretta Benedict, XR for VR Workforce Development Specialist
➤ Mansi Pagare, XR for VR Data Analyst and Peer Mentor Coordinator
➤ Don Winter, XR for VR Strategic Partnership Coordinator
○ Tour of Immersive Reality Room
- 2:15 p.m. Cross Disability Waiver Advisory Council Panel
➤ Kirsten Dvorak, Executive Director, The Arc of Bismarck and the Arc of ND
➤ Kyle Erickson, Advocate
➤ Katynka Morrissette, Parent Representative
➤ Kendra Vander Wal, Executive Director, Designer Genes
- 3:00 p.m. Advocacy 101 Panel
➤ Advocates Leading their Lives (ALL) Group
○ Sheryl Beard, Kyle Erickson, and Trevor Vannett

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