

ND OLMSTEAD COMMISSION

The **Olmstead Commission's goal** is to move ND forward towards greater integration & inclusion for persons with disabilities. For more information, go to <https://www.olmstead.nd.gov/> or contact us via our Facebook page, <https://www.facebook.com/NDOlmsteadCommission>.

July Olmstead Commission Meeting

Tuesday, July 19th, from 1:00—5:00 p.m., in the Dakota Room at Job Service ND, 1601 Century Ave in Bismarck.

AGENDA ITEMS

1:30 PM DD/ASD/LSTC

As a continuation of a matter discussed at the April Olmstead Commission meeting, the meeting begins with a discussion of the request from the North Dakota Autism Spectrum Disorder Advocacy Coalition to inquire about the possibly disproportional rate of admissions for persons with Autism Spectrum Disorder to the Life Skills and Transition Center (LSTC) in Grafton. Invited to the discussion are Jessica Thomasson, Executive Policy Director at the Department of Human Services, Tina Bay, Director of the Developmental Disabilities Division, Heather Jenkins, Superintendent of the LSTC, and Dr. Paul Kostoe, Director of Clinical Services/ Psychology at the LSTC.

The Commission and guests agreed to continue the discussion with additional information, and DHS has provided additional data on:

- length of stay
- admission/readmission rates and reasons
- co-occurring diagnoses
- assessments of individuals for HCBS services

3:00 PM 1915i Medicaid State Plan Amendment

The commission will be joined by Monica Haugen and Heather Brandt (housing) of DHS for a discussion on the recent changes to the 1915(i) state plan amendment, with additional data on supportive housing efforts.

Additional agenda items

- Olmstead Stakeholder Advisory group formation
- Annual Olmstead Commission Survey
- Future education discussion- Juvenile Justice/CHINS for October, education system interaction with DD system
- Future meeting dates

Upcoming

July 20 10am – 4pm [ND Behavioral Health Planning Council](#)

July 21 – 22 Regional Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders Conference, Alerus Center | Grand Forks [Register](#)

July 28 9am Acute Psychiatric Treatment Committee Notice; Presentation by DHS regarding recommendations from the Renee Schulte report.

Aug. 8 11am Children’s Cabinet Meeting [Click here for meeting information.](#)

Aug. 9 1pm [MFP Stakeholder Committee Meeting](#)

Aug. 16 4pm [ND Medicaid Medical Advisory Committee Meeting](#)

Human Services now accepting applications for its Autism Spectrum Disorder Voucher program

The annual application period for the **ASD voucher** starts July 1. Families of children ages three to 17 who have been diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder can apply for autism voucher program services for the upcoming state fiscal year (July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023).

The ASD Voucher can help pay for respite care for family caregivers, assistive technology such as sensory or safety equipment, caregiver training and other support services such as tutoring. The purpose of the voucher program is to enhance the quality of life of qualifying children and to meet the unique needs of their families. It also fills a gap by providing resources for non-therapy related services for families who do not qualify for other help.

To apply, families must complete the [ASD Voucher program application](#) or contact the North Dakota Department of Human Services at 701-328-4630, toll-free 800-755-2604, 711 (TTY) or dhsautism@nd.gov or fax 701-328-1544.

-Interested individuals can find more information about the department’s autism spectrum disorder services online at www.nd.gov/dhs/autism/index.html.

North Dakota Olmstead Commissioners

Ryan Norrell, Co-Chair, Office of the Governor

Wally Goulet, Co-Chair, citizen member

Judy Lee, ND State Senator

Alisa Mitskog, ND State Representative

Bruce Romanick, ND District Judge

Carlotta McCleary, Mental Health America of ND

Scott Burlingame, Independence Center for Independent Living

Julie Horntvedt, State Council on Developmental Disabilities

Siobhan Deppa, citizen member

Veronica Zietz, Protection & Advocacy Project

Commission Coordinator: Dan Gulya (danigulya@nd.gov)