## NOVEMBER 2025

The Olmstead Commission's goal is to move North Dakota towards greater integration and inclusion for individuals with disabilities.

#### IN THE NEWS:

## North Dakota Continues Disability Care Effort

North Dakota has significantly expanded home and community-based services for people with disabilities, now supporting over 3,500 individuals, a 54% increase since the 2020 settlement agreement with the U.S. Department of Justice. The agreement followed a federal review that found too many people were placed in nursing homes unnecessarily. Progress includes more referrals and diversions from institutional care, but challenges remain, especially around housing and staffing. Officials say efforts are ongoing to improve coordination and ensure people with disabilities can live independently and be fully included in their communities. Read the full article HERE.

# MEETING: Wednesday, November

Wednesday, November 12<sup>th</sup>
1-3pm at Job Service ND
1601 Century Ave.
in Bismarck

**NEXT OLMSTEAD** 

Discussion Topics:
Goal #7- Employment
Goal #4- Housing

# NOVEMBER IS ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY MONTH

Assistive technology includes tools and devices that help people with disabilities live more independently. It can be high-tech, like screen readers or smart home devices, or very basic, like eyeglasses or walkers, anything that supports daily living and improves quality of life.

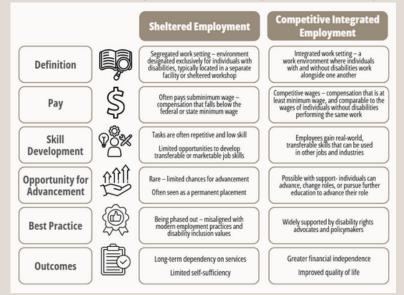


Stay tuned to our Facebook and Instagram this month for more information, insights, and stories about how Assistive Technology empowers independence and inclusion.

## **EMPLOYMENT: CONTINUING THE CONVERSATION**

October marked National Disability Employment Awareness Month, but the conversation doesn't stop there.

This month, we're continuing the dialogue by unpacking the differences between sheltered employment and competitive integrated employment. Explore these infographics to see how the employment systems compare, and why inclusive, equitable workplaces matter. Click on the images to enlarge.



#### **Competitive Integrated Employment** Supported Employment Customized Employment **Job Coaching** Job coaching offers short-term Customized employment involves Supported employment services support to help clients learn their job, include job coaching, skill tailoring job responsibilities to align fade once the individual is stable in support to help individuals specific needs of a business, followed their employment and no longer with disabilities find and keep by providing ongoing support to needs ongoing support. meaningful employment. ensure long-term success. **Segregated Employment** Subminimum Wage/ Sheltered Workshops Sheltered workshops are segregated work environments where individuals with disabilities perform basic tasks in a highly structured setting, often at below minimum wage.

It's time to move beyond outdated models like sheltered work and subminimum wage.

### **OPPORTUNITIES FOR LEARNING & ENGAGEMENT:**

Thriving Through the Holidays: Maintaining Mental Health During the Season November 6<sup>th</sup> at 12pm | <u>Join Here</u>

November 6 at 12pm | <u>Join Here</u>

Statewide Independent Living Council November 6-7 | <u>Join Here</u>

State Council on Developmental Disabilities November 13<sup>th</sup> at 10am | Join Here

Medicaid Medical Advisory Committee November 18<sup>th</sup> at 3pm | <u>Join Here</u>

ND Children's Cabinet
November 18<sup>th</sup> at 4pm | More Information

Secondary Transition Planning - College Options and Life After High School

November 18<sup>th</sup> at 7pm <u>More Information</u> | <u>Register Here</u>

Sleep and Mental Health: The Vital Connection

November 20<sup>th</sup> at 12pm | <u>Join Here</u>

ND Brain Injury Advisory Council
November 20<sup>th</sup> at 12pm | More Information

ND Cross Disability Advisory Council November 20<sup>th</sup> at 1pm | <u>Join Here</u>

## LET'S STAY CONNECTED!

Sign up to receive Olmstead news and updates. Visit our website and social media for more information and resources.



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