



Executive Office

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John Hoeven, Governor
Carol K. Olson, Executive Director

June 4, 2007

Jocelyn Sloan
Autism Society of ND
628 6th Avenue
Alice, ND 58031

Kay Farris
Red River Valley Asperger Network
67 Prairiewood Drive
Fargo, ND 58103

Dear Ms. Sloan and Ms. Farris:

It was recently brought to my attention that the group you represent was disappointed with the response you received in a letter from Dr. Wayne Sanstead and me, dated April 18, 2007. I want to assure you that there was certainly no intention to minimize the relevance and importance of the input you provided.

As noted in the letter, it is anticipated that the guidelines will indeed be brought forward for review. It will be important that stakeholder input be included and considered as part of that process. Since the time of that letter, I have been informed that the expected timeline for a work group addressing this issue is September 2007. I understand this is a public meeting, and that notice will be provided to those who may wish to participate.

I hope you will participate in this process. The Department of Human Services places value on the knowledge and experience of our stakeholders, and appreciates your desire to assist in improving services.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Carol K. Olson". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Carol K. Olson
Executive Director

c: Governor's Office
Dr. Wayne Sanstead, Dept. of Public Instruction
Deb Balsdon, DD