The year 2020, is for certain a year to forget. It will, however, be a year etched in history.

North Dakota’s disasters are usually floods, tornadoes, or blizzards where clearly we can blame Mother Nature. The pandemic of 1918 should have provided guidance but it didn’t. So here we go again. Covid-19 is an extremely contagious virus that is easily spread through human populations. Covid-19 has been politicized, ignored and has been expected to disappear all on its own. Unfortunately, the virus has been misjudged.

The primary functions of government are to protect the basic human rights which include right to life, liberty, and to possess property. Only the government has the power to prevent such a pandemic and its effects. Ignoring a problem cannot result in a solution. The effects of Covid are serious. Consequently, thousands of households have already fallen to the eviction process in North Dakota.

How did our country get to the point that 30 million people are at risk of eviction. Is it poor planning by tenants or poor business practices by landlords? No, it’s neither the fault of landlords or tenants.

Now, what does North Dakota do? Legally, there is no defense to non-payment of rent. North Dakota’s statutory framework does not provide for pandemic protection. But the CDC issued an agency order declaring a moratorium on evictions, so no one can be evicted! Not so, North Dakota has 2,427 court filings for eviction in 2020, even though Congress passed the CARES Act and the CDC declared a moratorium. The number of eviction court filings for 2020, ranks third highest in the last 10 years. Nine out of the fifty-three counties increased their evictions from 2019.

The actions of landlords to evict tenants during a pandemic may prove to be costly beyond their expectations. The court’s willingness to utilize reasonable electronic means in ejecting citizens from their lawfully obtained residences too easily overlooks the bedrock of our Constitution, due process.

The impact of the eviction storm is too big for non-profits to absorb. North Dakota is still under a state of emergency. Putting aside that preventing families from being kicked out of their homes due to a pandemic is the right thing to do. Economically, it’s the right thing for the state to do to prevent its low-income work force from leaving for warmer climates. Finally, what we do to the least of our fellow man matters.

Richard LeMay,
Executive Director
Department of Human Services Implements New Guidelines for Irrevocable Itemized Funeral Contracts

By Alexander Turner

In order to qualify for Medicaid, your assets must fall below a certain threshold. The North Dakota Department of Human Services allows Medicaid members to set aside some funds and resources to cover burial expenses that are not counted towards Medicaid eligibility, but North Dakota Century Code Section 50-24.1-02.3 changed how Medicaid members can set aside burial expenses.

Previously (before August 1st, 2019) an individual could set aside funds for burial expenses up to $6,000. That amount would not be counted as an asset in determining if you qualify for North Dakota Medicaid. However, now, funds set aside for burial expenses must be put into an irrevocable itemized burial contract in order to not be counted as an asset in determining if you qualify for North Dakota Medicaid.

An irrevocable itemized funeral contract is a legal agreement that allows individuals to put away funds for future burial expenses. Because it is a funeral contract, the Medicaid member must make this agreement with a funeral home or cemetery association. It is irrevocable because it cannot be changed once created and lists each burial expense separately. Itemized funeral expenses can cover headstones or monuments, burial plots, caskets, burial vaults, embalming, cremation services, and other funeral-related expenses.

Two other important requirements of the new law is that the burial funds must be designated before a person’s death and cannot be mixed with other funds. All funds or resources designated for burial expenses must be in the itemized funeral contract, and cannot be mixed. This means any resources or funds you have outside of the irrevocable funeral contract (which could be pre-paid burial plans, certificates of deposit, savings accounts, life insurance policies designated for burial expenses) will negatively count towards Medicaid eligibility unless they are placed in an irrevocable funeral contract.

If you have a life insurance policy with a cash surrender value (cash amount offered to pay-holder upon cancellation of the policy), you do not need to change ownership of the life insurance policy. However, the owner of the life insurance policy needs to (1) name the funeral home or cemetery association as beneficiary of the policy, and (2) create an irrevocable itemized funeral contract with that institution.
A Medical-Legal Partnership Story

By Clara Alessi

Legal Advocates for Health (LAH), a part of Legal Services of North Dakota, is a medical-legal partnership that is set directly into the local healthcare community with office hours held within both the Fargo VA and the Family HealthCare clinic. This helps in creating a bridge for at-risk patients between medical services that are already trusted and legal services that are often viewed as confusing or inaccessible. By addressing the social determinants of health, the conditions in which we all live, work, and play, LAH strives to improve patients’ health outcomes.

The most effective way to show the usefulness of LAH is through a recent client story. During one of my days at Family HealthCare, a grandmother and granddaughter came into the office looking for legal help having been referred to me by one of the medical staff during a routine appointment. Both permanent residents, the granddaughter had been taking care of her grandmother’s day-to-day needs for quite some time as she had been diagnosed with dementia, along with being unable to read or write in her native language.

The grandmother’s only source of income was Social Security benefits that would shortly cease because she moved to the US in 2014. In order to continue to receive such benefits, a permanent resident needs to become a citizen within 7 years of coming to the US. However, this was a task easier said than done.

One of the steps to becoming a citizen is taking the Oath of Allegiance. Under USCIS policy, someone with a disability, such as dementia, may have another person take the Oath for her, but it must be either her legal guardian or her close relative who is a US citizen (i.e. a spouse, a parent, or an adult child). Although some of her grandchildren were in the process of becoming citizens, the grandmother did not have any close relatives who were already citizens. That left the option of her legal guardian taking the oath for her, but she did not have one yet.

Considering that she would lose her income within a year, which would negatively affect her social determinants of health (her living conditions), LAH assisted the granddaughter in getting a guardianship in place. The granddaughter, as guardian, is now able to proceed with the citizenship process for her grandmother and will be able to take the Oath of Allegiance for her.
## Remote Legal Services During COVID-19

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Outreach:</th>
<th>Our outreach services are closed for now due to COVID-19.</th>
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<tr>
<td>Applications:</td>
<td>We are available over the phone or online. When you contact us, we will gather basic information about you such as your contact and income information to determine whether you are eligible for our services. We may ask for additional documentation from you or more information about the legal issue you are experiencing. Any information you give us will remain confidential. If your needs cannot be met over the phone or online, we may be able to schedule an in-office appointment for you. Please call one of the numbers below to make a request for an in-person appointment. If you need an interpreter, we will provide one at no cost to you.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Legal Advocates for Health (LAH):</td>
<td>LAH is available by phone or email Monday - Friday 8:30 am to 4:30 pm (701) 318-3283 <a href="mailto:lah@legalassist.org">lah@legalassist.org</a> If you would prefer to fill out a paper application, please call LAH to have one mailed to you.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legal Services of North Dakota (LSND):</td>
<td>LSND is available by phone or online and does not take walk-ins. To apply online, go to <a href="http://www.legalassist.org">www.legalassist.org</a> If you are under 60, please call (800) 634-5263 on Monday, Tuesday, or Thursday from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm. If you are 60+, please call (866) 621-9886 from Monday to Thursday from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm or Friday from 8:00 am to 2:00 pm.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Court:</td>
<td>Many courts are holding hearings by phone or video instead of in-person at the courthouse. Please be sure to read your notice of hearing thoroughly to find out where and how your hearing will be held.</td>
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<tr>
<td>For more information:</td>
<td><a href="http://www.legalassist.org">www.legalassist.org</a></td>
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HIPAA During the COVID-19 Pandemic

HIPAA Protections
While there are a few differences due to the COVID-19 pandemic, HIPAA remains in effect to protect your health information.

U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services (HHS) Waiver
Effective March 15th, a hospital that does not comply with the parts of HIPAA listed below will not be penalized by HHS.

1) The requirement to get your approval to speak with family and friends involved in your care.

2) The requirement to honor your request to not be included in the facility’s directory.

3) The requirement to distribute a notice of privacy practices to you.

4) Your right to request privacy restrictions.

5) Your right to request confidential communications.

This waiver only applies to hospitals that have instituted disaster protocol in the area identified in the public health emergency declaration, and for up to 72 hours from the time that the disaster protocol is implemented.

When the emergency declaration ends, the waiver ends.

Allowed Disclosures Without Patients’ Consent
Prior to the COVID-19 pandemic and after it ends, hospitals are allowed to disclose certain protected patient information under specific circumstances without your consent.

1) As necessary, in order to treat you or another patient.

2) As necessary to public health authorities and others responsible for ensuring public health and safety (i.e. CDC, ND or MN State Health Dept.) because of a legitimate need to have such information to carry out their public health mission.

3) As necessary to notify family and others of your location, general condition, or death. Although a hospital should get your verbal permission or be able to assume under the circumstances that you don’t object, whenever possible.

4) As necessary to any person to lessen or prevent a serious and imminent threat of a person or the public. Although this disclosure must be consistent with all applicable laws and the hospital’s ethical standards.

5) If someone asks for you by name, the hospital may disclose its facility directory information on you and basic information about your condition in general terms, such as that you were treated and released. Such a disclosure must be in your best interests and consistent with any of your expressed preferences.

Telehealth Services
Health care providers may use remote communication for telehealth services, even if the application used does not fully comply with HIPAA rules. It must be good faith use of certain apps, such as Facebook Messenger video, Zoom, Skype, or FaceTime.

The use of any public-facing apps, such as TikTok, Facebook Live, or Twitch, for telehealth services is prohibited.

For more information:
www.hhs.gov/coronavirus/index.html
www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/index.html
www.health.nd.gov/diseases-conditions/coronavirus
Medicaid Updates During COVID-19 Pandemic

COVID-19 Testing
If you receive a test for COVID-19 by your medical provider, it will be covered.

When a vaccine becomes available, ND Medicaid will provide more information as to coverage.

Telemedicine
In general, the use of telemedicine is covered from March 20 to the date the national emergency ends.

The services you receive during a telemedicine visit must be services already covered by ND Medicaid.

Telemedicine can be through visual and audio contact or only audio contact, but it must be medically necessary and appropriate for you.

Non-public facing audio/video communication can be used such as Facetime, Facebook Messenger video chat, Skype, or Google Hangouts video. Keep in mind that risks to your privacy are potentially higher with the use of these communication methods.

Since ND Medicaid does not already cover virtual check-ins and e-visits, these services are not covered during the COVID-19 pandemic.

If you receive tele dentistry services, they must be live 2-way interactions in real time that are continuous between you and your dentist. Unlike other telemedicine, audio only is not covered.

Eligibility and Redetermination
You do not have to have an in-person interview for eligibility or redetermination during the national emergency. ND Medicaid encourages telephone or online methods.

Go to www.nd.gov/dhs/eligibility to apply.

Prescriptions
During the pandemic, your medical provider can provide an initial fill of all prescriptions for a 34-day supply. Your medical provider can also fill some prescriptions as a 90-day supply.

Insulins and birth control can also be dispensed in a larger day supply.

Durable Medical Equipment (DME)
If you have been diagnosed with COVID-19, you are eligible for home oxygen therapy when your oxygen saturations are 92% or less.

Medically Fragile, Children’s Hospice, and Autism Spectrum Disorder Waivers
If you and your child cannot reside in your designated home, then In-Home Support, Respite, and Hospice Cares can be provided where your child is living temporarily. Effective between March 1st and August 31st with use of telemedicine covered.

Long-Term Care Facilities
If you are a resident in a Long-Term Care Facility, your COVID-19 stimulus check is not counted as income or an asset by ND Medicaid. Keep in mind that the check needs to be spent within 12 months and cannot be comingled with your other assets. You should also only spend it on your needs and expenses. If you give it to another person, it could result in periods of ineligibility.

If you are a ND nursing home resident, your monthly income is currently $65. Keep in mind that you need to spend this in addition to your stimulus check.

If you are taking part in the Basic Care Assistance Program (BCAP), remember that BCAP is not a ND Medicaid-covered service and your stimulus check would be counted as income for the month you received it.

Health Tracks Program
Since this is a preventative health program, your participation in this program should be delayed until the national emergency is over as ND Medicaid recommends delaying all non-essential services during the COVID-19 pandemic.
Medicare and COVID-19

How to apply for Medicare
You must apply through the Social Security Administration. The offices are closed due to COVID-19, so apply online for Part A or LIS and by mail/fax for Part B.

Keep in mind that your application will take longer than normal to process, but your coverage is retroactive.

The 2-year waiting period for SSDI beneficiaries has not been changed due to COVID-19.

If you missed your opportunity to enroll in Medicare due to COVID-19, you may qualify for a Special Enrollment Period. To check if you do, call 1-(800)-MEDICARE.

Telehealth Services
Due to COVID-19, Medicare telehealth services can now be provided by a wider range of health care professionals such as physical and occupational therapists, and speech language pathologists, among others.

You may use telehealth services no matter where you are in the US, including your own home. Telehealth services are also available through rural or federally-qualified health clinics.

Virtual check-ins are covered. These are short virtual services that are not related to a medical visit that you had within the last 7 days and don’t lead to a visit either within the next 24 hours or the soonest appointment available.

Keep in mind that your verbal consent must be documented in your file before you can do a virtual check-in and that you will pay your usual deductible/coinsurance.

For more information: www.medicare.gov/coverage/virtual-check-ins

Online patient portals give you the option to communicate directly with your doctor and theses are also covered. Find more info here: www.medicare.gov/coverage/e-visits

You could still be billed your usual out-of-pocket costs such as deductibles, but there are no administrative sanctions for practitioners who wish to reduce or waive these charges.

Stimulus Checks
COVID-19 stimulus payments are not counted as income for Medicare purposes.

Vaccines and Tests
When a vaccine becomes available, Medicare will cover both your visit to get vaccinated and the vaccine itself. If you are given an FDA-authorized antibody test, it is covered if you were diagnosed with COVID-19 or it is assumed that you have COVID-19.

Hospital
Your medically-necessary hospitalizations are covered. This includes if you would normally have been discharged but had to stay in the hospital under quarantine.

Any care that you receive in other healthcare facilities and/or sites that aren’t considered part of the hospital are covered.

Keep in mind that military temporary hospitals and hospital ships do not charge you or Medicare for care.

Medicare Advantage Plans (MAPs)
These are Medicare plans that are offered by private companies. If you have an MAP, you have access to the above benefits, check with your plan about coverage and costs.

Sign up Periods:
You may qualify for extra time to sign up for Parts A and/or B if you missed your chance due to COVID-19.

For more information: www.medicare.gov/sign-up-change-plans/how-do-i-get-parts-a-b/part-a-part-b-sign-up-periods

Skilled Nursing Facility (SNF) Care
If you are not able to be in your home during the pandemic or are otherwise affected by COVID-19, you may be able to get SNF care without a qualifying hospital stay.

Scams
Keep in mind that scammers may use the pandemic as an opportunity. Remember to protect your Medicare card like a credit card, check your claims summary forms for errors, and hang up on anyone who calls asking for your Medicare number.

Duration
All of the changes made to Medicare as a response to COVID-19 should be considered temporary.
What Guardians Should Know During COVID-19

Duty to Contact:
While In-person visits may be restricted due to COVID-19, as a guardian, you still have a duty to maintain contact whether that is through video communication or by phone.

It may be a good idea to visit with a “through the window” meeting. If your ward lives in a facility, ask the staff to help you coordinate a time when you can visit outside a window or a door to maintain distance.

Take the time to discuss social distancing and health safety precautions with your ward and why these precautions are necessary to protect him/her.

CDC Recommendations
As a guardian, you should adhere to the CDC’s guidance on how to limit spread if you do enter a facility or meet with your ward.

Well-being Assessment
The Nat’l Center for State Courts recommends doing an assessment immediately.

Things you should assess include (1) your ward’s living arrangement and the stability of that arrangement, (2) any health risks related to COVID-19, (3) your backup guardian plan, (3) current contact information for everyone involved, (4) availability of necessary in-home services, (5) education continuity or enrichment for children, and (6) whether current services are necessary and appropriate.

Nursing Homes
Per CMS guidance, visitors to nursing homes are restricted, except for compassionate care.

In order to stay connected with your ward, stay in touch with staff and attend care planning meetings by participation through phone and/or video.

Reach out to the staff to see whether records are available to you electronically.

The facility must tell you by 5 pm the next calendar day of confirmed COVID infections or if 3+ residents/staff exhibit new symptoms within 72 hours of each other. This can be done through general means, such as a recorded phone message or a website.

The nursing home may move your ward to a new room within the facility to separate COVID-positive residents from COVID-negative residents.

Long-term Care Ombudsmen are still operational in all states, but there are no in-person meetings. Go to https://theconsumervoice.org/get_help to find the right ombudsman to contact with any questions.

Long-term Care Facility Restrictions
Restrictions on non-essential personnel and volunteers were removed as of June 5.

Service Providers
Reach out to any service providers for your ward and ask them to tell you about any service interruptions or if they see anything unusual while with your ward.

You may also want to reach out to neighbors of your ward and ask them if deliveries (food, medicine, etc.) have been successful.

Change in Services
To find out if services have changed due to COVID, reach out to your local Area Agency on Aging, MN or ND Dept. of Human Services.

www.eldercare.acl.gov/Public/About/Aging_Network/AAA.aspx
www.nd.gov/dhs/about/contact.html
https://mn.gov/dhs/general-public/about-dhs/contact-us/

End-of-Life Preferences:
If you have not done so already, discuss end-of-life preferences, wills, and health care directives with your ward as soon as possible, and ask if COVID-19 changes any of his/her wishes.

Health Care Providers
Give a copy of the court order granting you guardianship over your ward to each health care provider in case of emergencies.

Stimulus Checks
These checks are considered a tax credit and not a federal benefit like Medicaid. Therefore, facilities cannot take these funds.

Health Insurance
You should review your ward’s health insurance for any COVID-19-related updates.
Social Security Benefits During COVID-19

Local Offices
The local Social Security Administration offices are closed for now. They are asking you to first try their online services before calling with questions.

If you have a scheduled appointment, someone from that office will call you at the scheduled time.

While they cannot take walk-in visitors at this time, your local office may be able to schedule an in-office appointment for you if there is a critical situation that cannot be taken care of over the phone or online.

Online services: www.ssa.gov/onlineservices/

Stimulus Checks
You will receive a stimulus payment for each individual.

The stimulus checks are not considered income for SSI recipients and the money is excluded from resources for 12 months.

The IRS is sending some stimulus payments by prepaid debit card, instead of a paper check. If you receive one of these debit cards, it must be activated before you can use it. To activate it, call 1-800-240-8100.

If you believe that your representative payee is misusing your stimulus check, the SSA is unable to investigate since it is not an SSA benefit. However, if the SSA hears of any allegations in relation to misuse of stimulus money, it may choose to investigate for possible misuse of your social security benefits.

Unemployment
If you receive unemployment, it will not affect or reduce your retirement or disability benefits. However, any income you receive from the SSA may reduce what you receive from unemployment.

Your unemployment benefits are considered unearned income. As such, if you, your spouse, or a child living in your household has any income other than your SSI benefit, including unemployment insurance benefits, you must tell the SSA.

Deadlines
The SSA is extending deadlines wherever they can and giving the maximum flexibility in applying their good cause policy, which allows extension of time limits for submitting documents and appeals.

Wherever possible, the SSA is suspending processing and collection of overpayments. It has also suspended overpayment billing.

Hearings
Administrative Law Judges (ALJs) are currently only having hearings by phone and are not conducting any non-disability hearings.

Telephone hearings are not mandatory and you may request to have your hearing rescheduled for a time when in-person or video hearings are available once again.

If you request to postpone your hearing until you can have one in-person or by video, the SSA will send you a notice giving the new date, time and place of your hearing. This notice will be sent to you at least 20 days before the date of the new hearing.

Hearing Office
The hearing office will contact you if you have a scheduled appointment. The number that calls you may be a private one, not a government phone number.

Hearing office locator: www.ssa.gov/appeals/ho_locator.html

For more info:
Local office locator: secure.ssa.gov/ICON/main.jsp

National toll-free number: 1-800-772-1213
Top 5 Ways to Protect Yourself From COVID-19 Scams

1. Be cautious in sharing your personal information.
It is best to refuse to give your personal information through email, text message, or by phone. Remember, this is especially true when the person is sending you unsolicited communications and demanding your information.

2. Do your research.
Many scammers try to create urgency by telling you that the offer is only good for a small window of time, that their COVID-19 product is in high demand, or that you are not a good person if you do not donate immediately. If you receive a communication from a charity or have an encounter with an unknown company, do your research before buying merchandise/services or giving donations. Go online and search the charity or company name to see if it is a legitimate business. Remember, if they need your money today, then they will need it tomorrow, too.

3. If it sounds too good to be true, it probably is.
There have been many new scams directly related to COVID-19 including selling virus test kits or cures. Remember, you will not hear about a cure or legitimate test from an obscure or unknown place first. To check for up-to-date information, go to www.cdc.gov/coronavirus.

4. Pay with a credit card and check your credit report.
If you have not done business with a company before, use a credit card. Remember, when a company demands that you use a money transfer or gift card, it is a scammer’s strategy to separate you from your money.

In response to the COVID-19 crisis, Equifax, Experian, and TransUnion are all offering free weekly credit reports on www.annualcreditreport.com through April 2021.

Remember, you can freeze your credit report if you think you have been scammed. To find out how, go to www.consumer.ftc.gov/articles/0497-credit-freeze-faqs

5. Don’t respond to calls or texts supposedly from government agencies.
If you get a text, call, or email from someone claiming to be part of a government agency (IRS, FBI, etc.) reaching out about a COVID-19 issue, do not respond directly to the communication or click on any links provided. Look up the website of the agency yourself and call a phone number listed on that website to check whether the communication is a scam. Remember, a government agency will never call you to ask for personal information or money.
**COVID-19 Emergency Rent Bridge**

The North Dakota COVID Emergency Rent Bridge (ERB) can provide temporary rental assistance to eligible renters who are experiencing a loss of household income due to COVID-19.

**HERE'S HOW IT WORKS:** The COVID Emergency Rent Bridge Process in 5 EASY STEPS:

1. **RENTERS** may determine their eligibility and apply for rental payment assistance via an online pre-qualification survey.
2. Once information is submitted, the renter will see a confirmation screen that tells them if they are likely to be eligible for assistance. This confirmation can be presented to the housing provider as evidence that application for assistance has been made.
3. The renter will receive an email that will enable them to submit the documentation needed to complete their application.
4. ERB staff will review the materials submitted and reach out with any questions.
5. Once a Renter is approved, the housing provider will need to register as a vendor in the North Dakota Office of Management and Budget (OMB) supplier registry and confirm details related to the renter’s tenancy. Payment will be sent directly to the housing provider. In most cases, payment will be made in the month it is due, unless a renter applies late in the month.

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**If you believe you have been a target or victim of a COVID-19 scam:**

Contact: Nat’l Center for Disaster Fraud hotline at (866) 720-5721


[https://www.ftccomplaintassistant.gov](https://www.ftccomplaintassistant.gov) (FTC Complaints)

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**For more information:**

[www.fcc.gov/covid-scams](http://www.fcc.gov/covid-scams)


[www.ftc.gov/coronavirus](http://www.ftc.gov/coronavirus)

[www.consumerfinance.gov/coronavirus](http://www.consumerfinance.gov/coronavirus)

[www.BBB.org/scamtracker](http://www.BBB.org/scamtracker)
New Licensed Attorney

Congratulations, Mallory Block!

Mallory recently passed the North Dakota Bar Exam! Mallory was sworn in April 13 and admitted to the North Dakota State Bar April 16.

Mallory previously interned with LSND during her final year at UND School of Law.

LSND Success Story

Client contacted LSND after disability benefits and Medicare Savings Plan were terminated by the Social Security Administration (SSA), which also caused a large overpayment. Client worked with the SSA for over a year prior to reaching out to LSND for help.

LSND staff reviewed the case and worked with SSA staff to pinpoint the issue which resulted in client’s benefits being reinstated without going to a hearing. Client also received all benefits back to the day benefits were terminated. The Medicare Savings Plan was also reinstated and the large overpayment was reversed.

Client is extremely grateful as bills can now be paid.
Welcome to Legal Services

Kassidy Axness has recently joined the LSND team as a Legal Secretary in the Grand Forks office. She was born and raised in North Dakota and proud of it. Kassidy graduated from the University of North Dakota in 2019 with degrees in Criminal Justice and Public Administration. She previously worked as a Special Education Paraprofessional for Grand Forks Public Schools, helping students with a range of disabilities. She is passionate about helping others, and looks forward to contributing to the LSND team. When she isn’t working, Kassidy enjoys reading nonfiction, exercising, watching sports, and spending time with her family and friends, as well as her dog.

Alexander Turner has accepted the position as Staff Attorney in the Minot Law Office and will be working under the Native American Program. Alex was born in Brazil, but his earliest years were spent on a farm in Iowa. Alexander’s parents were missionaries, and he ended up moving back and fourth between the USA and Zimbabwe, Chile, and Brazil (where he lived for three years each). In Chile, his parents worked serving the native Mapuche Indians. In high school, he tutored every day after school. He attended college at the University of Pennsylvania, where he took service-oriented classes tutoring inner city students and traveled to New Orleans to rebuild houses after hurricane Katrina. Alexander attended Drake Law School in Des Moines, where he volunteered at the Justice for Neighbors Immigration Clinic and interned working with migrant farm workers for Iowa Legal Aid. Alex said he loves working with people of diverse backgrounds and learning how to best serve the legal needs of the Native American community will be his joy and primary goal in the coming months. In Alex’s spare time, he is busy writing a novel, enjoys international cuisine, board games, hiking, and fishing.
I Work at LSND Because…

A family-friendly workplace or employer is one whose policies make it possible for employees to more easily balance family and work, and to fulfill both their family and work obligations. Family-friendly policies benefit employers, families and society.

Legal Services of North Dakota is one of those employees. They have allowed employees as new parents to bring their newborns to work until a mutually agreed upon time.

Morgan Oen, Intake Support, Minot Law Office, is appreciative and grateful that Legal Services of North Dakota is a family-friendly, oriented workplace. “Our executive director allows us to put our family first if we don’t have daycare, or we are allowed time off when we take kids to the doctor or if we need to bring kids to the office before/after school.”

“We are Family Oriented!”

Morgan Oen, Intake Support, LSND

Outreach Calendar

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<th>Sun</th>
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Due to COVID-19, outreach has been suspended.

If you need legal assistance, please call

Central Intake—1-800-634-5263

or Senior Legal Hotline (for individuals 60+)

1-866-621-9886
Minot Central Intake/Law Office Moves to New Location

Minot Law Office/Central Intake officially moved from the Bremer Bank location on Broadway to the Seven Twenty Office Building located at 720 Western Avenue on April 24. Since most staff were already working from home due to COVID-19, Gale Coleman, IT compliance manager and Richard LeMay, Executive Director, were able to move some furniture and non essential items to the new office prior to April 24.

The only down time callers experienced was on Friday, April 24, as that was the official moving day and a new statewide telephone system was installed for Legal Services.

Thank you to Minot staff for not only working to ensure the office was covered but also with packing, cleaning and moving.
Mission Statement

Legal Services of North Dakota strives to provide high-quality legal advice, representation and education to low-income, disadvantaged and elderly North Dakotans.

Legal Services of North Dakota Board of Directors

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