

NDSSP Summary 2017

- January meeting 2017, Being a Legislative session year, all of the providers are busy making their representatives are informed about the importance of our programs, from Meals on Wheels to Transit. Brian Arett and Pat Hansen are usually our go to directors for public testimony during the legislative session. Brian gave testimony on “Feeding Grandma and Grandpa our third edition of how our Title III meals help keep seniors in their homes.
- We received training from Megan Laudenschlager from Strengthen ND on Employee Handbooks and the importance of making sure all employee information and duties are clarified.
- Dr. Jan Strommen also speak to us and presented her finding on the aging population of North Dakota rural communities.
- April 2017 – Legislative session has not ended and one of the biggest issues right now is the capping of state match money on mill levy funds. (this bill ran out of steam and was not approved during the 2017 session)
- Dr. Jan Strommen reported on the Circles on Aging project being completed by NDSU,
- October 2017 – John Vastag spoke to us about Assistive (IPAT) and the great resources they have available to those needing assistance in their homes, they have to showrooms available in the state, one in Fargo and another in Bismarck.
- Aging Services has four retiring staff and due to budget cuts it could be sometime before no staff is hired to replace them.
- Café 60 was discussed as an option for our smaller towns where finding staff is problematic

With 2017 being a legislative year much time by many members was spent talking to their representatives either before, during and after committee meetings, making sure they understand the importance of our programs and how they continue to help keep seniors in their homes and communities where they want to be. And how this help save the state fund by keeping seniors out of nursing homes.