

MICHELLE GAYETTE

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR - DHS
AGING SERVICES DIVISION
BISMARCK



WHAT ROLES HAVE YOU SERVED IN WHILE WORKING FOR THE STATE OF ND?

I started at a human service center in 1998 as an addiction counselor working in therapy and drug court settings. I moved to the aging services division in 2011 and have been there ever since.

WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THE AGING SERVICES DIVISION, AND WHAT KIND OF SERVICES DOES IT PROVIDE?

Our division focuses on helping older adults and individuals with physical disabilities stay in their homes and communities longer. We can help connect people to services such as assistive technology, meals, in-home care, and other programs that help maintain their autonomy and respect for their rights.

WHAT IS ONE OF YOUR MAIN RESPONSIBILITIES IN YOUR ROLE?

A significant part of my job is overseeing the Vulnerable Adult Protective Services Program. The program works to keep individuals safe and responds to reports of suspected abuse, neglect and exploitation.

WHAT ARE SOME ACTIVITIES YOU ENJOY IN YOUR FREE TIME?

I am passionate about giving back to my community through organizations such as Meals on Wheels and the Central Dakota Humane Society. I also love spending time with my family.

HOW DO YOU THINK WORKING TOGETHER AS ONE UNIFIED TEAM WILL ENHANCE SERVICES?

The two departments work together frequently in licensed facility settings. DoH regulates, licenses, and certifies long-term care facilities and the DHS' Ombudsman Program advocates for residents and seeks to resolve complaints. In the future, I see a great opportunity for us to communicate more openly with each other as one team.

**"North Dakota is becoming a key player on the national stage
for programming and home services."**

BETTER

TOGETHER

Transforming the Citizen Experience

NORTH
Dakota Be Legendary.™
Health and Human Services