

North Dakota Adult Education & Literacy Displaced Homemakers Program

The legislative assembly found that there were an ever-increasing number of persons in North Dakota who, having fulfilled a role as homemaker, found themselves "displaced" in their middle years through separation, divorce, death or disability of spouse, or other loss of support. It was the intention of the Legislative Assembly in enacting this mandate, to provide the necessary counseling and guidance, job readiness training, and services for displaced homemakers so that they may enjoy the independence and economic security vital to a productive life and to improve the health and welfare of this ever-growing group of citizens. As a result, the Displaced Homemaker Program is legislatively mandated pursuant to NDCC Chapter 14-06.1. The Program receives funds from federal, state and local sources

For program purposes, the term "displaced homemaker" means an individual who:

- a. Has worked in the individual's home providing unpaid services for household members;
- b. Has been or is unemployed or underemployed;
- c. Has had or will have difficulty finding employment; and
- d. (1) is widowed, divorced, separated, or abandoned; or
(2) because of the disability of the individual's spouse, is displaced from the individual's former economically dependent role.

The State Superintendent of the Department of Public Instruction has the authority to direct funds and designates the Adult Learning Centers to

- provide personal and employment counseling; interpersonal skill building; job readiness, job search, and employability training; information and community referral services; and appropriate public information and community education.
- include an outreach component capable of delivering the full range of services to groups of displaced homemakers in rural communities.
- ensure that displaced homemakers receive information and referral services as necessary for preventive health care and consumer health education; money management and assistance programs; and, higher education opportunities.

Displaced Homemakers Advisory Committee

the Department of Public Instruction has established an advisory committee. Membership is to consist of one citizen member representing each of the eight planning regions of the state and two citizen members to be selected at large. Membership may represent displaced homemakers, local service providers, appropriate agencies, employers, educators, and the general public. Membership for the Committee is available through the local Adult Learning Centers and the State Office.

Direct any questions you may have to the Adult Education Center in your area,
or contact the Department of Public Instruction at 701.328.2393.