

## Did you know about?

Learn about services and organizations in our community we think you should know about!

**Interview with Jenny Hunt**  
Director, Elks Camp Grassick



### What is Elks Camp Grassick?

Elks Camp Grassick is a residential summer camp in Dawson, ND for people with physical and intellectual disabilities. Our mission is to provide a very special summer camp experience for children and adults with disabilities.

Our camp sessions are designed to serve different levels of support needs.

*Therapy camp* is for children ages 7-21 who have a moderate support need and focuses on independence and individual therapies. Skills camp is for children ages 7-18 who have a minimal support need and focuses on social skills and building positive relationships with peers.

*Recreation Camp and Medical Respite Camp* are for children ages 7-16 who need one-on-one support. The Recreation session focuses on those who need one on one support due to more behavioral needs such as attention to task or risk of elopement while Medical Respite is for individuals who need total assistance due to their medical needs.

*Adult Campers* for individuals ages 21 and over of all support needs and is a recreational session.

### What activities do campers do?

Campers are able to participate in traditional summer camp activities including crafts, recreation, swimming, boating, archery, and fishing. Camp Grassick also offers speech therapy, occupational therapy, and reading intervention which includes individual therapies and real life skills – building independence and self-confidence, practicing social skills and managing emotions. Each evening, campers and staff participate in activities such as dances, talent show, movies, campfires, church, and camp-wide games.

### What if I can't afford camp?

Elks Camp Grassick never turns anyone away based on the ability to pay. Families are asked to pay what they are able towards the campership fee and the remainder will be covered through donations from the North Dakota Elks and other generous individuals, organizations, and businesses. Some campers are also able to get sponsorships from local businesses and organizations or through their school or special education unit.

### How do I apply or help someone apply?

On our **website**, you can fill out an online version of the application or there is also a printable version. For students, there are sections for the parents/guardians to fill out that includes a medical form. There are also sections to be filled out by teachers and therapists. The adult camp application is just one document. The deadline for applications is March 26, 2025. The applications go through a screening process to determine if applicants are a good fit for camp and the session they applied for.

### Do you need volunteers or employees for camps this summer?

Camp Grassick is also accepting applications for summer staff. Open positions include cabin counselors, craft

instructors, recreation staff, a lifeguard, a camp nurse, reading instructors, and speech and occupational therapists. Working as camp staff provides valuable experience for students majoring in education, speech therapy, OT, PT, nursing, or other related fields.

### **What else do you want readers to know about Camp Grassick?**

Elks Camp Grassick is a very special place and provides an amazing experience for campers and staff. Our core values are connection, independence, growth and respect. Camp Grassick offers everyone a place to be themselves, be accepted, play, laugh, learn, grow and make lifelong friendships.

**Learn more!**

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### **Balancing the Budget: A Worthy Goal, But Don't Jeopardize Our Safety Nets**

#### **Director's Corner**

*How do we*

**Advocate**

**Advocate Educate Facilitate**

**Facilitate**



## Guiding you to find your voice

- Self-Advocacy Life Academy Class
- Attend IEP/IPP meetings
- Assist self-advocates with contacting legislators



## Sharing our collective voice

- Participate in groups involving the rights and well-being of people with disabilities in our community
- Provide input in ND legislative sessions
- Participate in public input meetings



## Educate

### Training we do for individuals

- Retail Training Internships
- Rights education (BINGO)
- Life Academy Class
- Voter education opportunities
- United Voices Text Group
- Work experience opportunities
- Information and referrals



### Training we do for groups

- Restorative Practice facilitation
- Community integration and ADA consultation
- Provide disability-related education to service groups
- Share information regarding current issues and policy changes to the public

## Programs for individuals

- Scholarships
- Rep. Payee Services
- Grow With Us Gardening
- Yes! I am Creative Art Class
- Provide vouchers for household and clothing needs

**The Arc**  
Cass County



## Inclusive Events

- Fashion Show
- ADA Celebration
- The Arc's Annual Banquet and Dance

## Services for the community

- Individual/group volunteer opportunities
- Host Plain Language AA Group
- Classroom grants
- Employment opportunities for people with disabilities and people in recovery



Since 1956 The Arc of Cass County has been promoting and protecting the human rights of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. The Arc is dedicated to supporting people with disabilities to be fully participating in our community.  
[arccassnd.org](http://arccassnd.org)



Monday, March 10th



### YES! I AM CREATIVE!

Engaging, Encouraging & Celebrating Your Creative Side  
With Kay Hilde

10:00 am, 1:00 p.m. or 2:00 p.m. at The Arc

We will be creating paper flowers with Kay Hilde!

Please RSVP by Thursday, 3/6 by emailing  
[arcassistant@arccassnd.org](mailto:arcassistant@arccassnd.org) as space is limited.



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701-935-5381

Join  
[CCountyUV@gmail.com](mailto:CCountyUV@gmail.com)



## Good Reads

### North Dakota News

- Behavioral Health Treatment Center Opens in Jamestown
- ND Protection & Advocacy Project Revamps Common Ground Guide & Training
- ND Monitor - Education Savings Accounts for all North Dakota Students Pass Senate

### US Disability News

- Disability Scoop - Trump's Pick For Education Secretary Proposes Offloading Special Ed
- NBC News - Disability amid disaster: people with disabilities disproportionately impacted by natural disasters
- Disability Scoop - 'D word' Billboards Aim To Get People Talking About Disabilities

NDCPD PRESENTS:



NCE





RESILIENCE  
THROUGH  
CONNECTION

Strong relationships are essential for good health, yet many people, especially those with disabilities, experience loneliness and isolation, which can harm their well-being.

The Resilience Through Connection ECHO® provides a deep exploration of factors contributing to loneliness and social isolation. This program offers practical strategies to build life skills, resilience, and a sense of connectedness for individuals with disabilities and poor mental health. Participants will learn ways to reduce social isolation, improve mental well-being, and access resources in North Dakota that foster belonging and community.

#### Session Dates and Times:

Every Wednesday  
Feb. 26, 2025 - April 30, 2025  
11:00 am - 12:00 pm CT



#### INTERESTED IN JOINING US?

Online via Zoom

- No cost to participants
- Learn best practices from Subject Matter Experts
- Earn free social work and nursing CEUs

#### REGISTER



[ndcpd.org/echo](http://ndcpd.org/echo)



Krista.Opstedal@MinotStateU.edu



This effort is associated with North Dakota's State Suicide Prevention Program, funded by the ND Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), Behavioral Health Division (BHD).

# EMPOWERING INDEPENDENCE THROUGH TECHNOLOGY

JOIN US FOR AN AFTERNOON OF INNOVATION! EXPLORE THE FUTURE OF ACCESSIBILITY WITH HANDS-ON ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY AND HEAR FROM INDUSTRY EXPERTS. HELD ALONGSIDE THE POWER UP YOUR VOICE CONFERENCE.

EVENT	TIME
REGISTRATION OPEN POWER UP YOUR VOICE EVENT	2:00 PM
EXHIBITOR HALL OPEN	2:00 PM
ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY PRESENTATION	2:30 - 3:30 PM
EXHIBITOR HALL CLOSED	4:30 PM
SNACKS AND ENTERTAINMENT	5:00 PM

REGISTER FOR THIS EVENT AND THE POWER UP YOUR VOICE CONFERENCE 2025 ON [EVENTBRITE.COM](https://www.eventbrite.com)

**MARCH 23, 2025**

**HOLIDAY INN FARGO**

3803 13TH AVENUE  
SOUTH FARGO, ND 58103



For more information, contact Jordan Wetsel with ND Protection and Advocacy at [jwetsel@nd.gov](mailto:jwetsel@nd.gov), or Julie Hornvedt with the DD Council at [jhornvedt@nd.gov](mailto:jhornvedt@nd.gov)



HEALTH & ADVOCACY CONFERENCE  
FOR INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES

**MARCH 24TH, 2025** | **HOLIDAY INN - 3803 13TH AVE S  
FARGO, ND 58103**

#### 2025 POWER UP YOUR VOICE CONFERENCE AGENDA

Pre-Conference Activities SUNDAY March 23rd

2:00 - Registration Opens

2:00-4:30 - P&A Assistive Technology Speaker/Demonstration

5:00-6:00 - Entertainment: Light Snacks & Comedy with Kyle Erickson

Conference Monday March 24th

8:30-9:30 - Registration and Light Breakfast, Vendor Show

9:30 - Welcome with Trevor Vannett - DD Council Chair and Sheryl Beard-Advocates Leading their Lives (ALL) President

9:45-10:45 - Keynote

Dr. Syard Evans - Centering the Humans in Human Services.

10:45-11:00 - Break

**Plain Language  
Big Book  
STUDY GROUP  
Fridays at 1pm**



11:00-11:45 - **Breakouts**

1. Cody Clark - Making Life Magical
2. Vicky Davidson - Preparedness Begins with You
3. Heather Kapella - Transition from Pediatric to Adult Health Care

11:45-12:45 - **Lunch, Advocacy Awards Ceremony and a Panel Presentation:**

Agents of Change - Use Your Voice to Change the World  
Sheryl Beard, Carol Becker, Jon Fettig, Richard Kraft, and Heather Forde

12:45 - 1:00 - **Break & Vendor Show**1:00 - 1:45 - **Breakouts**

1. Cody Clark - Revealing the Secrets Behind Essential Skills
2. Eric Stoker - Celebrating Self-Determination
3. Mistie Bouly and Holden Bouly - Student Led Individual Education Program (IEPs)

1:45-2:00 - **Break & Vendor Show**2:00-2:45 - **Breakouts**

1. Joe Deutsch, Angie Kiefer, and Patsy Garland - Fuel Your Body to Feel Good and Be Healthy
2. Rachael Hafner - Futures Planning
3. Addie Loerzel - Life Lessons learned from a Cupcake

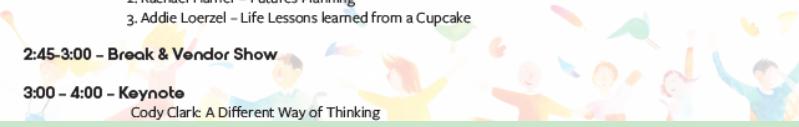
2:45-3:00 - **Break & Vendor Show**3:00 - 4:00 - **Keynote**

Cody Clark: A Different Way of Thinking



**The Arc of Cass County**

215 N UNIVERSITY DR  
FARGO, ND 58102



**Visit our Website**



The Arc of Cass County | 215 N University Drive | Fargo, ND 58102 US

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