

PRESS RELEASE

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**An Information Tip from Pembina County Emergency Management/911
2-1-1 is a Community Service Resource Number for Citizens**

North Dakota has implemented an information resource for citizens available across the state from any phone, either landline or cell phone through a toll-free number "2-1-1".

There are times that citizens may have needs and do not know who to call. This service may help identify what agency is able to meet that need in your area. 2-1-1 is an easy-to-remember telephone number that connects people with important community services. This statewide information, referral, and crisis management service is FREE and operator-serviced 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

2-1-1 is a FREE service that is currently provided in 40 states in the United States. As of June 2007 2-1-1 is serving approximately 198 million Americans, approximately 65% of the U.S. population. By the end of 2008 80% of the population is expected to have 2-1-1 access.

In February 2004, Mental Health America of North Dakota (MHAND) started providing the 2-1-1 service in North Dakota. The 2-1-1 ND program is funded by memberships, donations, grants, and various United Way agencies throughout the state. Examples of the types of assistance provided are:

- Basic human needs resources
- Physical and mental health provider referrals
- Services for older Americans and people with disabilities
- Community program resources
- Emergency service provider referrals
- Crisis management services, including suicide intervention, domestic violence, supportive listening, etc...

For more information related to 211, the following website is available:

<http://www.mhand.org/211/index.asp> or contact Sharon Brennise or Kristen Buchholz, Mental Health America of North Dakota
PO Box 4106, Bismarck, ND 58502-4106
Phone: (701)255-3692, **2-1-1**, or (800)472-2911
Fax: 701-255-2411



