

**SOUTH DAKOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
LIFELINE/LINK UP ADVERTISING/OUTREACH
ANNUAL REPORT
JUNE 1, 2010**

Company: Red River Rural Telephone Association

Address: 510 Broadway – PO Box 136
Abercrombie, ND 58001

Telephone number: 701-553-8309

Company contact: Jack Plecity

Study Area Code: 381631

Lifeline/Link Up Advertising/Outreach Activities

- X Advertise in media of general distribution.* (See attached Richland County News-Monitor newspaper ad run October 2009.)
- X Letter to existing and new customers regarding the availability of Lifeline/Link Up.* (See attached bill insert distributed May 2010.)
- X Company's Lifeline/Link Up information in directory. (See attached article from the directory distributed January 2010.)
- X Company's Lifeline/Link Up information available on Company website.
- Company's information posted on USAC website.
- X Other (describe): Posters at telephone office, social service departments, and food pantry (See attached poster distributed May 2010.)

* Required

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Library Happenings

Breckenridge Library will be closed on Columbus Day (Monday, Oct. 12). Storytime on Thursday, Oct. 15 and Saturday, Oct. 17 will feature "A is for Apple" with stories, fingerplays, songs and more about the goodness of apples! Storytime is on Thursday and Saturday mornings from 10:30 to 11:15 a.m. for children age 3 and older. Younger children are welcome if accompanied by an adult.

The Breckenridge Library will be showing

will be showing two movies back-to-back starting at 1 p.m. Enjoy free popcorn and watch "Peter Pan" at 1 p.m. and "Flicka" immediately after. Everyone is welcome. Feel free to bring friends, too.

Kids are invited to Get Craftin' on Friday, Oct. 16 from 1 to 4 p.m. Come for the whole afternoon or come anytime during the afternoon. There will be stations set up with different craft projects that can be created whenever you come to the library.

tions. If you've been struggling with your weight, now is the time to change your life.

Weight Loss Surgery Informational Session

Monday, October 19th from 6-8 pm
Ramada Plaza & Suites
1635 42nd St SW · Fargo, ND 58103

Pre-registration is Required

Questions & registration can be directed to Stacey Offerdahl at 218-732-2837.

Innovis Health

Life's better here.

St. Joseph's Area Health Services

www.weightmanagementmn.com

Oct. 11, 2009



SUBMITTED

Int trees

Breckenridge Modern Service Club gathered project was part of program introduced by t. This program ties of our organization, Modern Woodmen

help of its members, 80,000 trees across n tact Koerselman at

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Introducing
The Cake Tailor
701.642.1130
511 4th Street North • Wahpeton, ND
Jessica Woods
Featuring Contemporary Cakes
For All Occassions
Sheet & Shaped Cakes Available!

REAL ESTATE TAX NOTICE

The second half of Wilkin County Real Estate taxes are due to the County Treasurer on or before

Thursday, October 15th, 2009

Remittance by mail must be postmarked no later than October 15th, to avoid penalty. All mail postmarked October 16th and later will be assessed penalty.

Agriculture related property deadline is November 15th. The treasurer's office is not responsible for omitted parcels.

*Rose Ann Hulne,
Wilkin County Treasurer*

Telephone Lifeline Assistance Available

Under the Telecommunications Act of 1996, "universal service" means basic telephone service is available to all consumers. Universal service is voice grade access to the telecommunications network, including local usage, touchtone calling, single-party service, access to emergency 911 services, access to operator service, access to qualifying low-income consumers. All of these services are available from Red River Rural Telephone Association in these service areas: Abercrombie, Colfax, Fairmount, Great Bend, Hankinson, Lidgerwood, Mooreton and Wyndmere, ND; Barnesville rural, Kent and Rollag, MN.

2009 charges for these universal services are:

Basic local residential service \$14.95-\$18.00/month
(Rates vary by exchange and EAS charges may apply)

Touchtone calling No charge

Single-party service No charge

Access to 911 service No charge
(Local government assesses a tax to pay for special equipment.)

Access to operator services No charge

Access to directory assistance \$.60 per call
(If you call a long distance company for assistance, for local info that company may charge for its services.)

Access to long distance telephone companies \$6.50/month
(Flat rate prescribed by federal agency)

Low-income discounts up to \$10/month

Toll-blocking No charge

Link-up and Lifeline are low-income discounts available to qualifying subscribers, either participating in assistance programs or comparing their income to the poverty level. For more information on Lifeline, call Red River Telephone at 701-553-8309 or 1-866-553-8309 or visit www.rrt.net.

My Mammo.

RRRTA service representatives have a basic responsibility to answer your questions & resolve your problems. If you're not satisfied, feel free to ask for a supervisor or the manager. If you are still not satisfied, you have the right to file a formal or informal complaint with the appropriate public utility or service commission.

ND PSC 701-328-2400
State Capitol Building, Bismarck, ND 58505

MN PUC 1-800-657-3782
160 East Kellogg Rd, St. Paul, MN 55101

SD PUC 1-800-332-1782
500 East Capitol Ave, Pierre, SD 57501-5070

FCC 1-888-225-5322
1919 M Street, NW, Washington, DC 20554

VISIT www.teaprogram.org or e-mail ted.program@state.mn.us
in ND: 1-800-450-0459 Visit www.ndipat.org
Also refer to pages 9-10 in the telephone directory.

**PROTECT YOUR TELEPHONE PRIVACY
WITH THE "DO NOT CALL" REGISTRY**



**NATIONAL
DO NOT CALL
REGISTRY**

A national "DO NOT CALL" registry has been established to address unwelcome telemarketing calls. Commercial telemarketers are not allowed to call you if your number is listed on this registry.

EXCEPTIONS: Certain non-profit and political organizations and businesses that have an existing relationship with you.

To register for the "DO NOT CALL" list by phone, call 1-888-382-1222. You must call from the phone number you wish to register. Registration is free, your number is on the registry after one month, and your number remains on the list for 5 years unless you delete it sooner. Registrations can be renewed.

For more information or to register online, visit www.donotcall.gov.

LIFELINE & LINKUP Telephone Assistance Programs for Low-Income Consumers

Red River Telephone offers residential telephone assistance programs, referred to as Link Up and Lifeline, to help eligible persons establish and maintain telephone service.



Link Up can save those eligible 50% of the initial charges to hook up primary telephone service or \$30, whichever is less.

Lifeline applies only to primary local telephone service in your home. It lowers the monthly cost of telephone service by at least \$8.25. Eligible persons receive a form of assistance listed below or self-certify based on income.

Certification for LIFELINE & LINKUP - MN & SD Residents -

I certify under penalty of perjury that I currently receive benefits from the following program and agree to notify Red River Telephone immediately if I cease to participate in the program:

- Medicaid Food Stamps Supplemental Security Income National Free School Lunch
- MN Family Investment Program Federal Public Housing Assistance
- Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Temporary Assistance for Needy Families

Low Income - at or below 135% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines (Proof of income is required - contact Red River Telephone for list of accepted documents)

Customer Name _____
(Must be same name as on telephone bill)

Signature _____
(Must be same name as on telephone bill)

Social Security # _____

Date _____

Phone _____

- ND Residents -

If you participate in an assistance program you should contact social services for the necessary Lifeline form.

The form to the left can be used to self-certify your participation in Lifeline based on income only.

Return completed forms to Red River Telephone.

TELEPHONE ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

Lifeline and Link-up are federal and state assistance programs which reduce telephone bills for qualified low-income customers. Lifeline offers a monthly credit up to \$10/month and the Link-up program reduces installation charges for qualified low-income customers. You may qualify for telephone assistance if you participate in one of the following assistance programs:

Supplemental Security Income	Medicaid
Low-Income Home Energy Assistance	Food Stamps
Temporary Assistance for Needy Families	National Free School Lunch

or you may qualify if your household income is below 135% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines.

Methods for qualifying and applying vary by state. For more information, call Red River Rural Telephone Association or your county social services office.

Lifeline and Link-Up:

Affordable Telephone Service for Income-Eligible Consumers

If you think you can't afford telephone service, help is available. Federal programs called Lifeline Assistance and Link-Up America programs can help income-eligible consumers by providing discounts on installation fees and basic monthly telephone service at their primary residence.

What Benefits are Available Under the Lifeline and Link-Up Program

Lifeline Assistance provides discounts on basic monthly service at the primary residence for eligible telephone subscribers. These discounts can be up to \$10 per month, depending on your state.

Link-Up America helps income-eligible consumers set up telephone service. This program provides a discount (up to a maximum of \$30) of the initial installation fee for a traditional, wireline telephone service at the primary residence.

How To Qualify for Lifeline and Link-Up Discounts

Eligibility criteria for Lifeline and Link-Up programs vary by state. Eligible subscribers must be enrolled in one of the following assistance programs or qualify based on income:

- Medicaid
- Food Stamps
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
- Federal Public Housing Assistance (Section 8)
- Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)
- Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF)
- National School Lunch Program's Free Lunch Program
- Minnesota Family Investment Program
- Low-income at or below 135% of the federal Poverty Guidelines (See <http://aspe.hhs.gov/POVERTY/09poverty.shtml>)

In Minnesota or South Dakota, you may apply for Lifeline or Linkup using this form. Eligibility is verified annually.

In North Dakota, contact your county social services office for the Lifeline/Linkup application form. You can also contact Red River Telephone or your state public service commission for information about these programs and to determine whether or not you qualify for discounts.

To find the specific eligibility requirements for your state, visit the USAC Web site at www.lifelinesupport.org or contact Red River Telephone.

Certification for **LIFELINE & LINKUP**

- *MN & SD Residents only* -

The federal **Lifeline** plan & Minnesota Telephone Assistance Plan (TAP) offer eligible persons up to \$10/month credit on their phone bill. Eligible persons receive a form of assistance listed below or self-certify based on income.

Return the completed form to Red River Telephone.

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I certify under penalty of perjury that I currently receive benefits from the following program and agree to notify Red River Telephone immediately if I cease to participate in the program:

- Medicaid** **Food Stamps** **Supplemental Security Income**
- Minnesota Family Investment Program** **Federal Public Housing Assistance**
- Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program** **National Free School Lunch**
- Temporary Assistance for Needy Families**
- Low Income - at or below 135% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines**
(Proof of income is required - contact Red River Telephone for list of accepted documents)

Customer Name _____ Phone _____
(Must be same name as on telephone bill)

Customer Signature _____
(Must be same name as on telephone bill)

Social Security # _____ Date _____

11" x 17" poster
scanned in two pieces

**Lifeline &
Link Up
are home
telephone
assistance
programs
that can help
eligible
people afford
telephone
service.**

Yes, You Can Afford Telephone Service... and Red River Telephone Can Show You How.

Federal and state lawmakers believe that every person in America should have access to quality, affordable telecommunications service. In fact, they have created a system to do just that.

You may qualify for a discount on your telephone bill if you participate in any of the following program(s):

- *Medicaid*
- *Food Stamps*
- *Supplemental Security Income (Not Social Security)*
- *Federal Public Housing Assistance*
- *Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program*
- *Temporary Assistance for Needy Families*
- *National Free School Lunch Program*

or if your household income is below 135% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines.

This "universal service" support includes:

- *Lifeline* assistance that provides discounts for basic monthly local telephone service
- *Link Up* that reduces the cost of initiating new telephone service

For more information or to find out if you are eligible, contact Red River Telephone at 701-563-8309 or call your county social service office.



*"Your Total Communications Company -
Connecting You To The World"*