

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

Company: Hills Telephone Company, Inc.  
dba Alliance Communications

Address: 612 3<sup>rd</sup> Street  
PO Box 349  
Garretson, SD 57030

Telephone number: (605)594-3411

Company contact: Shirley Flanagan or Amy Ahlers

Study Area Code: 391405

Lifeline/Link Up Advertising/Outreach Activities:

- Advertise in media of general distribution.\* (See attached advertisement(s).)
- Letter to existing and new customers regarding the availability of Lifeline/Link Up.\* (See attached letter.)
- Company's Lifeline/Link Up information in directory.
- Company's Lifeline/Link Up information available on Company website. ([www.alliancecom.net/images/PDFs/lifeline-app.pdf](http://www.alliancecom.net/images/PDFs/lifeline-app.pdf))
- Company's information posted on USAC website.
- Other (describe): Alliance does not publish its own directory. The Information is published by DEX.

\*Required



Dear Alliance Communications customer:

**Lifeline, Link Up and Toll Limitation Service support** provide discounts to eligible low-income consumers to help them establish and maintain telephone service. **Note:** Telecommunications carriers cannot charge a Lifeline customer federal USF fees on the local service portion of the telephone bill.

*What type of discount is available?*

**Lifeline** assistance lowers the cost of basic, monthly local telephone service. Eligible consumers can receive discounts of \$6.50 and \$1.75 each month.

**Link Up** reduces the cost of initiating new telephone service. Eligible consumers can receive a 50 percent discount off of the one-time costs associated with initiating telephone service, up to a maximum of \$30. Eligible consumers also qualify for a deferred payment schedule for remaining costs of up to \$200.

**Toll Limitation Service (TLS)** support allows eligible consumers who wish to avoid incurring long distance fees to choose toll blocking or toll control at no cost.

*How do I know whether I am eligible?*

Eligibility for Lifeline, Link Up and TLS support varies by state. Individuals who reside in states that have their own discount programs qualify for federal Lifeline, Link Up and TLS support if they meet the eligibility criteria established by their state. In states that do not provide state support, an individual is eligible if he or she participates in one of the following programs:

- Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)
- Federal Public Housing Assistance or Section 8
- Medicaid
- Food Stamps
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
- Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)
- National School Lunch Program's free lunch program

*See reverse side for more information.*

*Speak and you'll be heard.*

In addition, a consumer may be eligible if his or her household income is at or below 135 percent of the federal poverty guidelines:

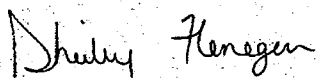
**2009 Lifeline Total Household Income Limits  
(135% of the Federal Poverty  
Guidelines)**

<b>Including yourself, your household has:</b>	<b>Total Household income is at or below:</b>
1 person	\$ 14,621
2 people	\$ 19,670
3 people	\$ 24,719
4 people	\$ 29,768
5 people	\$ 34,817
For each additional person, add	\$5,049

***How do I apply to receive Lifeline, Link Up and TLS support discounts?***

To receive an application for the Lifeline, Link Up and TLS discounts, please contact Alliance Communications by dialing 611 from any phone with Alliance service or call 1-800-701-4980. You can download the application at [www.alliancecom.net/pdf/Lifeline\\_App.pdf](http://www.alliancecom.net/pdf/Lifeline_App.pdf).

Sincerely,



Shirley Flanagan  
Customer Service Manager

**BROOKINGS** — The South Dakota State University Staters for State, the student organization of the SDSU Alumni Association, is seeking nominations for families who deserve recognition for their dedication, loyalty and support of their alma mater.

Each year Staters for State and the South Dakota State University Alumni Association honor a deserving family as "SDSU Family of the Year."

The 2010 recipient

will be honored at an awards luncheon hosted by Staters for State on Feb. 13, 2010. The family will also be recognized that evening during halftime of the women's conference basketball game against North Dakota State University.

Last year's recipient was the Dennis and Hazel Moe family of Brookings. Their support, service and contributions to SDSU cover the entire campus from two generations of students to department

administration and teaching to supporting athletics, museums and McCrory Gardens.

A downloadable official nomination form is available on the Alumni Association Web site <[www.statealum.com](http://www.statealum.com)>

Nominations are due by Dec. 4.

People interested in nominating a family can contact the SDSU Alumni Association at the Tompkins Alumni Center at 605-697-5198, toll free at 888-

735-2257, or email [um.com](mailto:um.com).  
[melissa.keiper@stateal](mailto:melissa.keiper@stateal)

**Design Homes** MN Contractor #20146710

Order Before Dec. 31 To "Lock-in" This Year's Price!

- Free Custom Floorplans!
- Free Whirlpool Appliances!
- Extreme Insulation Package!
- Lannox Furnace Standard!

Now Offering Solar & Geo-Thermal

Call For A Free Brochure And DVD

Before You Build...  
**designhomes.com ~ 800-627-9443**

**Christian Singles Connect**

Wednesday Nov. 18 & Thursday Nov. 19  
 (Ages 20s-30s) (Ages 35-55+)

6:30 PM (Walk-in Registration 6 PM)

Cherry Creek Grill, East 26th Street parking/banquet room

Cost: \$35 (Bring pal/group: \$30 each)

4-minute Christian "connection" time to meet every member of the opposite gender in the room, in a safe, comfortable atmosphere. Receive Fellowship & Friendship "connection" results within 48 hours, via email or phone.

For more information or to pre-register online: [www.ChristianSinglesConnect.com](http://www.ChristianSinglesConnect.com)

**Low-Income Telephone Assistance**

**Link-Up**  
 Link-Up assists qualified low-income residents in obtaining basic telephone service by providing reduced connection charges for basic phone service by 50% or \$30, whichever is less.

**Lifeline**  
 Lifeline assists qualified low-income residents by providing a monthly credit on their telephone bill in an amount up to \$8.25.

To be eligible, an application must meet income-based criterion currently defined as at or below 135% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines OR participate in at least one of the following:

- Medicaid
- Supplemental Security Income
- Food Stamps
- Federal Public Housing Assistance
- National School Lunch Program
- Temporary Assistance to Needy Families

The Telephone Assistance Program (TAP) is available for Minnesota residents and is designed to make telephone service accessible to qualifying low-income residential households. Through this program, eligible households will receive a monthly discount on their telephone service.

**How do I apply?**  
 Federal law requires Alliance Communications to verify that you are eligible to receive the Lifeline, Link-Up or TAP credits on your telephone bill. To apply, Alliance needs you to do the following:

- Fill out an application form. Call 1-800-701-4980 to receive an application, or go to [www.alliancecom.net/images/PDFs/lifeline\\_app.pdf](http://www.alliancecom.net/images/PDFs/lifeline_app.pdf).
- Provide proof that you are eligible for the Lifeline, Link-Up or TAP programs. You will need to photocopy any cards or other documentation that proves you are eligible to receive the credits. You also may stop by our Baltic, Brandon or Garretson office with your completed form and proof of eligibility, and we will make a photocopy of your proof of eligibility for you.

**IMPORTANT:** Participating in Medicare does NOT qualify you for the Lifeline, Link-Up or TAP credits.

- Return the form and your proof of eligibility to Alliance Communications, P.O. Box 349, Garretson, SD 57030. Or you can stop by our Baltic, Brandon or Garretson office if that is more convenient.

**Could I become ineligible?**  
 When you no longer participate in any of the qualifying public assistance programs, you are no longer eligible for Lifeline, Link-Up or TAP. You are obligated by law to advise Alliance Communications that you are ineligible.

For more information  
 If you have questions, contact Alliance Communications by dialing 611 or call 1-800-701-7980.

**Buy Brandon**  
 Build a Better Community

**DEJAGER**  
 PLUMBING & HEATING, INC.

1403 Cedar Street  
 Brandon, SD 57005

Commercial & Residential Service Calls Available  
 605-582-3315 Fax 605-582-8195

**RATES TOO HIGH?**  
 Insure your auto and home on the same policy.

*You Deserve the Discounts!*

**Prins Insurance**  
 of Sioux Falls, Inc.  
 Where you get an agent with your policy.  
 A smart way to buy insurance!

for a free quote call 332-5300

5517 N. Cliff Ave. Sioux Falls, SD • [www.prinsinsurance.com](http://www.prinsinsurance.com)

"5 KERNELS of CORN"  
 Sunday, Nov. 22nd at 9:00 a.m.

**THANKSGIVING EVE SERVICE**  
 (7:00 p.m.)  
 "The Blessing in Giving Thanks"

Faith United Presbyterian is a Conservative Church on the cutting edge of Outreach and Growth.  
 800 N. Splitrock Blvd., Brandon, SD

**Fall Specials**  
 from Window World

**FREE** Window or Storm Door with purchase of 7 Energy Star Windows

**\$675** INSTANT FACTORY REBATE on Premium Vinyl Siding

Double-Hung Windows Only. Offer not valid on previous purchases. Must present coupon.

with minimum 12 sq siding and eaves and hanger purchase. Not valid on previous purchase.

**Window World** THE LOCAL BEST  
 WINDOWS • SIDING • DOORS • BLINDS

"Simply the Best for Less"

Call for a Free Estimate!  
**800-NEXTWINDOW**  
[www.anysize189.com](http://www.anysize189.com)

605-373-1100  
 Showroom: 523 N. Kiwanis Ave. Sioux Falls  
 Hours: Mon-Fri 8 am - 5 pm Sat 10 am - 1 pm

**KARAOKE**

Friday & Saturday  
 Nov. 20th & 21st

**Neo Johnson Band**

9:00 pm - 1:00 am

**CORNER BAR**  
 Valley Springs, SD

Open 7 days a week. Video Lottery. Happy Hour. Must be 21.

**CLUBHOUSE AVAILABLE FOR RENT FOR ALL YOUR HOLIDAY CHRISTMAS PARTIES**

**ROCKY RUN GOLF COURSE**

Dell Rapids, SD  
 I-29 (Exit 98)  
 2 miles East  
 Call Bryan for more details  
**605-270-9541**

**Brandon**

VFW Three Rivers Post #4726

Proudly Announce  
**HEROES GRILLE**  
 "Great Food, Lots of Variety"

Monday Night Free Poker League

Saturday & Sunday Open At Noon  
**DRINK SPECIALS NOON-6PM**

**NFL Ticket Now Available**

November is National VFW Membership Month

**VFW LOUNGE**  
 321 Main, Brandon  
 582-3411