

**SOUTH DAKOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION  
LIFELINE/TRIBAL LINK UP ADVERTISING/OUTREACH  
ANNUAL REPORT  
JULY 1, 2019**

Company:

Address:

Telephone number:

Company contact:

Study Area Code:

Lifeline/Tribal 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/Tribal Link Up within 1<sup>st</sup> 30 days of service.\* (See attached letter.)
  - Company's Lifeline/Tribal Link Up information in directory.
  - Company's Lifeline/Tribal Link Up information available on Company website. [www.bmtc.net](http://www.bmtc.net)
  - Company's information posted on USAC website.
- Other (describe):

\*Required

# COMMUNITY

## Beresford

### Senior Center

#### Monday, March 19

Hamburgers on a Bun,  
Peas & Carrots, Carolina  
Beans, Applesauce

#### Tuesday, March 20

Pork Chop w/ Onions &  
Herbs, Baked Potato,  
Broccoli-Corn Bake, Cab-  
bage Salad, Peaches

#### Wednesday, March 21

Sloppy Joe on a Bun,  
Macaroni & Cheese, Baked  
Beans, Pineapple, Cookie

#### Thursday, March 22

Salisbury Steak, Mashed  
Potatoes & Gravy, Carrots,  
Lime Jell-O w/ Peaches

#### Friday, March 23

Baked Fish, Potato  
Wedges, Peas, Coleslaw,  
Mandarin Oranges

*Please Sign up Day Before,*

**Eat at 11:15 a.m.**

**Call 763-5074**

## Agriculture to be on Display at the Washington Pavilion

The South Dakota Farm Bureau Women's Leadership Team (WLT) will participate in showcasing agriculture to 3,500 children March 16 & 17 in Sioux Falls at the Washington Pavilion.

On Friday, March 16, the WLT will be educating 3rd graders from selected schools around the area. Baby lambs and various products that come from sheep will be part of their interactive display.

The activities continue at the

venue Saturday, March 17, for the annual Ag Day at the Pavilion. During the hours of 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., the public is invited to engage in exhibits sharing where food, fiber and fuels come from. Last year, close to 2,500 people participated in the Ag Day event. The WLT will again have baby lambs and will also have hands on activities about wool and the different feeds that animals eat.

"Ag Day at the Pavilion is a very unique way to educate con-

sumers of all ages," said Cindy Foster, SDFB Women's Leadership Team Chair. "Not only are we able to help them understand where their food comes from, but we also connect them with the farmers and ranchers who produce that food."

For more information about the SDFB Women's Leadership Team, visit [www.sdfbf.org](http://www.sdfbf.org). More information about the Washington Pavilion can be found at [www.washingtonpavilion.org](http://www.washingtonpavilion.org).

## Beresford Municipal Telephone Company Rates and Lifeline Program

Beresford Municipal Telephone Company provides basic and enhanced telecommunications services within its service area. Basic telephone services are offered at the following rates:

Single Line Residential Service	\$26.75
Single Line Business Service	\$30.25
Multi Line Business Service	\$34.48

Local resident and business telephone service includes:

- Voice grade access to the public telephone network
- Single-party flat-rated local service free of per minute charges
- Dual tone multi-frequency signaling (touch-tone) service
- Access to directory assistance services
- Access to other operator services
- Access to 911 emergency services
- Access to interexchange (long distance) services
- Toll limitation for qualifying low-income consumers

Lifeline Assistance Program is available for qualifying low-income subscribers. This program provides a monthly service discount on telephone or broadband service. Toll blocking at no charge and reduced deposits are also available. To qualify, a subscriber must participate in at least one of the following programs or have a household income that is at or below 135% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines:

- Medicaid
- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (Food Stamps program)
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
- Federal Public Housing Assistance (FPHA)
- Veterans Pension or Survivors Pension Benefit

Beresford Telephone Company's voice and broadband service is a Lifeline-supported service. Only eligible consumers may enroll in the Lifeline program. Lifeline applicants must provide documentation demonstrating eligibility either through participation in one of the qualifying federal assistance programs, or through income-based means. Lifeline recipients are required to recertify their eligibility every year. The Lifeline program is limited to one benefit per household, consisting of either telephone or broadband service. A household is defined, for purposes of the Lifeline program, as an individual or group of individuals who live together at the same address & share income and expenses. Lifeline is a government benefit program, and consumers who willfully make false statements in order to obtain the benefit can be punished by fine or imprisonment or can be barred from the program.

The basic services described above are offered to all consumers in BMTC's service area. If you have any questions regarding telecommunication services, please call BMTC's office at 763-2500.

# ice

in Rural  
Members

# Meeting

.m.  
h 23, 2018

gion Hall  
g, SD

~ Beresford Municipal Telephone Company ~  
*Residential Telephone Service Application*

*For new customers*

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Social Security #: \_\_\_\_\_ Birth Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ (as you want listed in phone book)

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Billing Address (if different): \_\_\_\_\_

Additional authorized contact(s) on account (CPNI): add last 4 digits of SS# of authorized contacts if available

**Base Residential Telephone Prices:**

Local Access	\$ 14.00
Federal Access	\$ 6.50
SD Hearing Impaired	\$ .15
911 Surcharge	\$ 1.25
Access Recovery Charge	\$ 3.00
Federal Universal Service Charge *	\$ 1.79 Changes each quarter
	<b>\$ 26.69</b>

\_\_\_\_\_ Published Phone Number

\_\_\_\_\_ Nonpublished \$1.00 (number will NOT appear in phone book or Directory Assistance)

\_\_\_\_\_ Non Listed \$1.00 (number WILL be listed in Directory Assistance but not phone book)

\_\_\_\_\_ Wiring Maintenance \$1.00

\_\_\_\_\_ 900 Block

\_\_\_\_\_ Long Distance Carrier

\_\_\_\_\_ Calling Name (15 letters maximum)

**Calling Features:**

\_\_\_\_\_ Call Waiting \$.75

\_\_\_\_\_ Voice Mail \$2.50

\_\_\_\_\_ Caller ID \$3.00

\_\_\_\_\_ Voice Mail + E \$3.25 email address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Toll Deny/Allow 800 \$.75

\_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_

**Applicant's Signature**

**Cell Phone Number**

----- *Office Use Only* -----

CPNI discussed: \_\_\_\_\_ Lifeline Info Given: \_\_\_\_\_ Copy of Driver's License: \_\_\_\_\_ Deposit received: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # assigned: \_\_\_\_\_ Installation date: \_\_\_\_\_ CSR \_\_\_\_\_

(technician does not come to house unless requested)

~ Beresford Municipal Telephone Company ~

For new customers

Broadband Only Service Application

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Social Security #: \_\_\_\_\_ Birth Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Add'l Contact(s) on account: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Billing Address (if different): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ 15 Mbps down/2 Mbps up \$65.00

\_\_\_\_\_ Modem Lease \$3/mo \_\_\_\_\_ Modem Purchase \$50

\_\_\_\_\_ Modem Contract \$0 (requires 6 month service commitment/contract)

\_\_\_\_\_ 20 Mbps down/2 Mbps up \$70.00

\_\_\_\_\_ Modem Lease \$3 mo \_\_\_\_\_ Modem Purchase \$50

\_\_\_\_\_ Modem Contract \$0 (requires 6 month service commitment/contract)

\_\_\_\_\_ 25 Mbps down/5 Mbps up \$90.00 **\*\* Requires Deluxe Modem \*\***

\_\_\_\_\_ Modem Lease \$10/mo \_\_\_\_\_ Modem Purchase \$80

\_\_\_\_\_ Modem Contract \$0 (requires 6 month service commitment/contract)

\_\_\_\_\_ Email

Login: \_\_\_\_\_

Password: \_\_\_\_\_

**Login must start with a letter/max 8 characters**

**PW must be 4-8 characters, no upper case**

\_\_\_\_\_ Spam Filter (must have BMTC email account)

\_\_\_\_\_ Wireless Router (Purchase Only) **\*\* Deluxe Router recommended for speeds above 15 Mbps \*\***

\_\_\_\_\_ Standard \$45 day of install or cash/carry, or \$65

\_\_\_\_\_ Deluxe \$85 day of install or cash/carry, or \$100

\_\_\_\_\_ Wiring Maintenance \$1.00/month

Router name: \_\_\_\_\_ Router Password: \_\_\_\_\_

(Any # of characters)

(Minimum 8 characters)

Applicant's Signature

Cell Phone Number

Office Use Only

CPNI discussed: \_\_\_\_\_ Lifeline Info Given: \_\_\_\_\_ Copy of Driver's License: \_\_\_\_\_ Deposit received: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

BBO # assigned: \_\_\_\_\_ Installation date & time \_\_\_\_\_ CSR: \_\_\_\_\_

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and  
Lifeline Program**

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- Access to interexchange (long distance) services
- Toll limitation for qualifying low-income consumers

Lifeline Assistance Program is available for qualifying low-income subscribers. This program provides a monthly service discount on telephone or broadband service. Toll blocking at no charge and reduced deposits are also available. To qualify, a subscriber must participate in at least one of the following programs or have a household income that is at or below 135% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines:

- Medicaid
- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (Food Stamps program)
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
- Federal Public Housing Assistance (FPHA)
- Veterans Pension or Survivors Pension Benefit

Beresford Telephone Company's voice and broadband service is a Lifeline-supported service. Only eligible consumers may enroll in the Lifeline program. Lifeline applicants must provide documentation demonstrating eligibility either through participation in one of the qualifying federal assistance programs, or through income-based means. Lifeline recipients are required to recertify their eligibility every year. The Lifeline program is limited to one benefit per household, consisting of either telephone or broadband service. A household is defined, for purposes of the Lifeline program, as an individual or group of individuals who live together at the same address & share income and expenses. Lifeline is a government benefit program, and consumers who willfully make false statements in order to obtain the benefit can be punished by fine or imprisonment or can be barred from the program.

The basic services described above are offered to all consumers in BMTC's service area. If you have any questions regarding telecommunication services, please call BMTC's office at 763-2500.

**Beresford Municipal Telephone  
120 E. Main Street  
Beresford, SD 57004  
763-2500**

***Notice to Beresford Municipal Telephone Company Customers***

**Low Income Assistance Available:**

Beresford Municipal Telephone Company is authorized to provide a federal assistance program that was developed in response to concerns about the affordability of telephone & broadband service for low-income citizens. The **Lifeline** program provides a monthly benefit on home phone & broadband service to eligible households.

**Who is Eligible?**

Subscribers must have household income that is at or below 135% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines or the subscriber, one or more of their dependents, or their household must participate in at least one of the following public assistance programs to be eligible:

<b>Medicaid</b>	<b>Federal Public Housing Assistance (FPHA)</b>
<b>Food Stamps</b>	<b>Veterans Pension or Survivors Pension Benefit</b>
<b>Supplemental Security Income (SSI)</b>	

*If you do not participate in one or more of the programs listed above, you may qualify for Lifeline if your household income does not exceed 135% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines (see table below).*

**2018 Health and Human Services Poverty Guidelines**

Number in Residence	135% Guideline (Annual)	Number in Residence	135% Guideline (Annual)
1	\$16,389	5	\$39,717
2	\$22,221	6	\$45,549
3	\$28,053	7	\$51,381
4	\$33,885	8	\$57,213

For each additional person after 8, add \$5,832 to the annual guideline.

**What does the Program Provide?**

**Lifeline** provides eligible subscribers with a credit of \$9.25 on their basic telephone or broadband charges. The credit applies on the main home telephone line or broadband service listed in the name of the eligible telephone company subscriber. Lifeline subscribers also may receive blocking of long distance calling on their telephone line at no charge.

**How do I apply?**

If you meet the eligibility requirements, you must completely fill out and sign an application form. You must also provide proof of program participation or income eligibility. More details on this documentation requirement and application forms are available at our office at: Beresford Municipal Telephone Company, 120 E. Main St., Beresford, SD 57004, and at Beresford City Hall, 101 N. 3<sup>rd</sup> St., Beresford, SD 57004.

**Could I Become Ineligible?**

When you no longer are eligible to participate in any of the above assistance programs or your income becomes higher than the chart above, you are no longer eligible for Lifeline. *You are obligated by law to notify Beresford Municipal Telephone Company and advise the company that you are no longer eligible for Lifeline.*

***If you feel you qualify for this program or would like more information,  
please call us at 763-2500 or stop in our office at 120 E. Main Street.***

### U.S. CODE, TITLE 18 Section 1343

Fraud by Wire. Whoever, having devised or intending to devise any scheme or artifice to defraud, or for obtaining money or property by means of false or fraudulent pretenses, representations, or promises, transmits or causes to be transmitted by means of wire, radio, or television communication in interstate or foreign commerce, and writings, signs, signals, pictures, or sounds for the purpose of executing such scheme or artifice, shall be fined not more than \$1,000.00 or imprisoned not more than five years, or both.

HOUSE BILL NO., 639, as passed by the Fifty-Second Session of the Legislature of the State of South Dakota stipulates the following:

1. Any person owning or having control of any pipes, wires, cables, or other facilities for the transmission of gas, oil, electricity, water, communications, or other products or services, which are buried beneath the surface of the ground, including areas within the limits of any political subdivision, shall give written notice thereof to the office of the register of deeds in the county where the facilities are located.
2. The register of deeds of each county where the facilities described are buried shall establish and maintain a uniform file system containing the information furnished by the owner or person having control of these facilities.
3. Any person intending to conduct any digging, grading, leveling, excavating, blasting, or similar activities upon the lands described in the notice shall request the person owning or controlling the facilities to accurately locate them upon the land where they are situated, at least two days per location, not counting Saturdays, Sundays, and legal holidays, before the commencement of the activity.

## Lifeline and Toll Limitation Services

**Lifeline 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 their telephone bill.

### *What type of discount is available?*

**Lifeline** assistance lowers the cost of basic, monthly local telephone or internet service. Eligible consumers receive a \$9.25 credit per month.

Eligible residents of Indian reservations or tribal lands can receive up to an additional \$25 in Lifeline support, but must pay at least \$1 for basic monthly service.

Eligible low-income consumers living on tribal lands are eligible for an additional discount of up to \$70 to cover 100% of the charges between \$60 and \$130.

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

### *How do I know whether I am eligible?*

Eligibility for Lifeline and TLS support varies by state. Individuals who reside in states that have their own discount programs qualify for federal Lifeline and TLS support if they meet the eligibility

## Lifeline and Toll Limitation Services - cont'd



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:

- Medicaid
- Food Stamps
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
- Veteran's Pension or Survivor's Benefit Program
- Federal Public Housing Assistance (FPHA)

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

To apply for Lifeline and TLS discounts, please contact Beresford Municipal Telephone Company, 101 N. 3rd, Beresford, SD 57004 or (605)763-2500.

## Use Of Telephone For Debt Collection Purposes

The Federal Communications Commission has received information that interstate telephone service is being used for collection of claimed debts in ways that are or may be in violation of applicable tariffs of the telephone companies and criminal statutes. Practices alleged include calling at odd hours of the day or night; repeated calls; calls to friends, neighbors, relatives, employers, and children; calls making a variety of threats; calls asserting falsely that credit ratings will be hurt; calls falsely stating that legal process is about to be served; calls demanding payments for amounts not owed; calls to places of employment; and calls misrepresenting the terms and conditions of existing or proposed contracts. Although many of these calls are placed on a local basis, there is increasing indication that such improper practices also involve use of interstate toll and Wide Area Telephone Service (WATS).

Tariffs of the telephone companies forbid use of the telephone "... for a call or calls, anonymous or otherwise, if in a manner reasonably to be expected to frighten, abuse, torment, or harass another;" or for calls that "... interfere unreasonably with the use of the service by one or more other customers;" or calls for "... unlawful purpose." Upon violation of any of these conditions the telephone company can, by written notice, discontinue service "forthwith." These tariff regulations are filed with this Commission pursuant to Section 203 of the Communications Act, 47 U.S.C. 203, and are binding on the telephone company and customer alike. Users of the telephone service are also subject to the enforcement proceedings provided for in Sections 401 and 411 of the Communications Act. In addition to the loss of telephone service for violation of the tariffs, Section 223 of the Communications Act makes it a crime to use the telephone in the District of Columbia or in interstate or foreign communications to make "repeated telephone calls, during which conversation ensues, solely to harass any person at the called number" or to knowingly permit "others to use his telephone" for such purpose. Penalties for violation of Section 223 are a fine up to \$500.00 or six months' imprisonment, or both, 47 U.S.C. 223.

The Commission is concerned that some users of telephone service may be unaware of their obligations to refrain from using the service for abusive or harassing calls. It is also concerned that other users may be willfully and repeatedly violating the provision of the tariffs and the applicable statutes, and that the telephone companies are not adequately enforcing their tariffs. Accordingly, the Commission is issuing this Public Notice in order that the public may be informed of the requirements of law in this area and so that users may be alerted to their legal obligations in the use of the telephone and the penalties for failure to abide thereby.





## *Beresford Municipal Telephone Company*

Home • Local Telephone • Long Distance Telephone • Internet • Analog Cable • Digital Cable • Bundles

### **Lifeline**

BMTC provides a federal telephone assistance program for low-income citizens. The Lifeline program provides reduced monthly charges to telephone customers who qualify. Subscribers must have a **household** income that is at or below 135% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines or must participate in at least one of the following public assistance programs to be eligible.

- Medicaid
- Food Stamps
- Supplemental Security Income
- Federal Public Housing Assistance
- Veterans Pension or Survivors Pension Benefit

Lifeline provides eligible subscribers with a credit of \$9.25 each month on the basic service portion of the telephone bill. The credit applies on the main home telephone line listed in the name of the eligible telephone company subscriber.

Toll Limitation Service allows eligible Lifeline customers who wish to avoid incurring long distance fees to choose toll blocking at no cost.

If a customer qualifies due to income requirements, documentation is required prior to installation. Acceptable forms of documentation include:

- >Prior year tax return
- >Paycheck stubs (must be 3 consecutive months within current calendar year)
- >Social Security Statement of Benefits
- >Veterans Administration Statement of Benefits
- >Retirement/Pension Statement of Benefits
- >Unemployment/Workman's Compensation Statement of Benefits
- >Divorce Decree, child support, or other official document

For more information on the Lifeline program, please call us at 763-2500.

*To contact Beresford Municipal Telephone, please call, fax, e-mail, or stop by our office:*

*120 E. Main Street  
Beresford, SD 57004*

*Phone: 605/763-2500 or 605/763-2008*

*Fax: 605/763-7112*

*E-mail: [phone@hmtc.net](mailto:phone@hmtc.net)*

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Company Name	Phone	Type of Service ▲	State
Beresford Municipal Telephone	605-763-2500	Home Phone	SD

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If you want to see more companies, [see the list of companies in SD](#).

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## Tell Us What You Think

We will continue to update this tool, so please check back often. If you have any comments or find something wrong, please email us at [LifelineProgram@usac.org](mailto:LifelineProgram@usac.org).

## More About the Data

The Companies Near Me tool is powered by [USAC's Open Data](#) initiative. This initiative allows the public to explore and analyze information submitted by universal service program participants.

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[Website & Privacy Policies](#) | [Website Feedback](#)

*USAC Web page*

**Beresford Municipal Telephone  
120 E. Main Street  
Beresford, SD 57004  
763-2500**

**\*\* Low Income Assistance Available for Telephone & Broadband Customers \*\***

**Low Income Assistance Available:**

Beresford Municipal Telephone Company is authorized to provide a federal assistance program that was developed in response to concerns about the affordability of telephone & broadband service for low-income citizens. The **Lifeline** program provides reduced monthly charges to telephone or broadband subscribers who qualify.

**Who is Eligible?**

Subscribers must have household income that is at or below 135% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines **or** must participate in at least one of the following public assistance programs to be eligible:

**Medicaid**

**Food Stamps**

**Federal Housing Assistance**

**Veterans Pension or Survivors Benefit Program**

**Supplemental Security Income (SSI)**

**What does the Program Provide?**

**Lifeline** provides eligible subscribers with a credit of \$9.25 on their basic telephone or broadband charges. The credit applies on the main home telephone or broadband service listed in the name of the eligible telephone company subscriber. Lifeline subscribers also may receive blocking of long distance calling on their telephone line at no charge.

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**Could I Become Ineligible?**

When you no longer are eligible to participate in any of the above assistance programs or your income is higher than the Federal Poverty Guidelines, you are no longer eligible for Lifeline. **You are obligated by law to notify Beresford Municipal Telephone Company and advise the company that you are no longer eligible for the Lifeline benefit.**

***If you feel you qualify for this program or would like more information,  
please call us at 763-2500 or stop in our office at 120 E. Main Street.***