

October 30, 2009

MHAND is a private, non-profit 501(c)(3) agency.

Susan Rae Helgeland
Executive Director

Executive Secretary, ND Public Service Commission
Darrell Nitschke
600 East Boulevard - Dept. 408
Bismarck, ND 58505-0480

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PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Dear Mr. Nitschke:

On October 22, 2009 the Mental Health America of North Dakota (MHAND) Board of Directors voted to reorganize MHAND without the **2-1-1 ND** program.

MHAND received the **2-1-1 ND** designation in 2004. The **2-1-1** program is significant to ND citizens and the MHAND Board regrets to inform the ND Public Service Commission that, due to lack of economic support, MHAND must relinquish the **2-1-1 ND** designation as of this date.

It is MHAND's intention that the **2-1-1 ND** service not be interrupted in order to best serve ND citizens. FirstLink, Inc. has been a subcontractor with MHAND to provide **2-1-1 ND** services in Cass County. FirstLink has the capacity to provide statewide 24/7 service and has expressed a willingness to continue the **2-1-1 ND** service until a new designation is made.

Sincerely,



Susan Rae Helgeland, MS
Executive Director

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Letter re. Relinquishing Designation as 2-1-1 User
Mental Health Association of North Dakota



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