

December 6, 2005

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**PSC SEEKS COMMENTS ON PROPOSED 2-1-1 SERVICE
IN JEFFERSON COUNTY**

LINCOLN – The Nebraska Public Service Commission has asked that persons with an interest in 2-1-1 dialing for health and human services referrals in Jefferson County submit comments by the end of December.

The Commission opened proceedings on a request by United Way of the Midlands to inaugurate a three-digit number for non-emergency referrals in Jefferson County. Fairbury is the Jefferson County seat.

Fourth District Commissioner Rod Johnson of Sutton, who represents Jefferson County, said, “The Commission wants all persons who have comments, pro or con, on the application to send written comments in the 30-day period that ends just before New Year’s Day. That enables the Commission to gauge the level of support for or against the proposal when determining whether to grant the application.”

If approved, Jefferson County would join 36 other Nebraska counties with 2-1-1 dialing for the United Way of the Midlands’ First Call for Help program that provides trained personnel to direct callers to health and human services agencies, both public and private.

The 2-1-1 service recently was approved for Thayer County, just to the west of Jefferson County, in south central Nebraska.

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