



## Northern Virginia Regional Commission

# NEWS RELEASE

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **Northern Virginia Regional Commission Joins Region In Welcoming Launch of 2-1-1 Service**

The Northern Virginia Regional Commission, a long-time partner with local governments in the provision of human service information and referral to Northern Virginia residents, welcomes the launch of 2-1-1 on Feb. 11.

Like 9-1-1 for emergencies, 2-1-1 is the Federal Communications Commission-designated national three-digit telephone number for information about health and human services. Beginning Monday, Feb. 11, the 2-1-1 service will be available throughout Northern Virginia seven days a week, from 8 am until 12 midnight. The 2-1-1 VIRGINIA system began operating in other parts of the state in 2006. CrisisLink, a nonprofit agency which has provided "hotlines" for the region since 1969, will answer 2-1-1 calls in Northern Virginia.

"The new 2-1-1 information line is another tool for residents of the region to use in finding important health, human and social services," said G. Mark Gibb, Executive Director of the Northern Virginia Regional Commission. Northern Virginia local governments will continue to provide their own ten-digit numbers for information and referral, he said. Residents can use the local government number, which may be familiar to them, or the easy-to-remember 2-1-1.

Over the past four years, the Northern Virginia Regional Commission has been working with local governments, the 2-1-1 VIRGINIA state network and others to develop the 2-1-1 system for Northern Virginia. The database of more than 4,400 community resources which will be used by CrisisLink to help callers locate the services they need was built by the Northern Virginia Regional Commission and contributes the information published in the popular *Quick Guide* to human services, the region's most recognizable human services information resource. Callers to 2-1-1 may request referrals to services for abuse and neglect, HIV/AIDS, disabilities, domestic violence, health care, housing, mental health, senior citizens, and shelters, among others. Information on these services is also available at: [www.211metrodc.org](http://www.211metrodc.org) and [www.211virginia.org](http://www.211virginia.org).

The Northern Virginia Regional Commission is a regional council of 14 local governments and serves as a neutral forum where representatives of the member local governments can collaborate on approaches to problems that cross county, city and town boundaries. NVRC member governments are the counties of Arlington, Fairfax,

Loudoun and Prince William; the cities of Alexandria, Fairfax, Falls Church, Manassas and Manassas Park; and the towns of Dumfries, Herndon, Leesburg, Purcellville and Vienna.

For more information about the Northern Virginia Regional Commission, contact NVRC Executive Director G. Mark Gibb at 703.642.4646, or visit [www.novaregion.org](http://www.novaregion.org). For more information about CrisisLink, contact Carol Loftur-Thun, CrisisLink Executive Director, at 703.527.6603.

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