MARIAN MANOR HEALTHCARE CENTER

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NDSU State Board of Agriculture Research and Education Morrill Hall 314 NDSU Dept 7520, PO Box 6050 Fargo, ND 58108-6050

To Whom It May Concern:

I am the Administrator of Marian Manor Healthcare Center in Glen Ullin, North Dakota. As part of my responsibility, I also manage the Marian Manor Estates which provides independent living apartments for the elderly in the Glen Ullin and Hebron communities. I have seen the impact for our seniors when they begin to have difficulty making necessary healthy choices in order to stay in their home and to be safe.

Western Morton County Aging in the Community program has provided the older adults in our area services such as exercise classes, cooking and nutrition classes, gardening programs and assisting with various government programs enrollment such as Medicare Part D and housing assistance. Since this program has been in place, I have seen its value for community members as they receive education and resources to allow them to remain in a more independent environment. Our elderly members of both Glen Ullin and Hebron communities now have an avenue which provides social interaction, ways to strengthen their physical well-being and enhanced benefit from other programs in place to assist the aged citizen.

I would recommend using this program as a template and providing the necessary funding to expand into other rural areas of the state. It would bring needed education, resources and services to those seniors who are in rural regions of North Dakota allowing them to safely remain in their homes.

Sincerely,

Sandy Gerving, Administrator Marian Manor Healthcare Center