

Sample Letter:

Dear Jon Nelson,

I am the Stroke Program Coordinator at Sanford Health in Fargo. I work directly with our patients who are stroke survivors. Support is offered in with support group and newsletters.

During the pandemic, in person meeting has been difficult. Also, stroke support groups are not always an option for stroke survivors because 1) support groups are not located near them, 2) physical disabilities make it difficult to attend, and 3) dependence on someone to get them to a support group is problematic.

I've become more aware of the services provided by the Brain Injury Network. And the BIN is a great option to support many people – not only TBI and stroke survivors, but their family and caregivers as well. In the past 9 months I have been actively promoting the BIN as an option for our stroke survivors. Our local volunteer, a stroke survivor herself, has been working with the BIN to help on calls specifically to stroke survivors.

I would strongly encourage you to restore the brain injury funding in HB 1012 including the proposed 50% reduction in funding the North Dakota Brain Injury Network. There are many stroke survivors who would benefit from the services and direction provided by the NDBIN. As we are revising our stroke support services, our plan is to more actively promote the BIN services to our survivors and their caregivers.

Thank you for your time and consideration of supporting HB 1012. Feel free to contact me if you have further questions.

Sincerely,

Sue Johnson MS, RN, CNRN, SCRN

Stroke Program Educator

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