

**SOUTH DAKOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
LIFELINE/LINK UP ADVERTISING/OUTREACH
ANNUAL REPORT
JUNE 1, 2009**

Company: City of Faith Telephone Co
Address: Box 368
Faith SD 57626

Telephone number: 605-967-2261
Company contact: Debbie Brown
Study Area Code: 391653

Lifeline/Link Up Advertising/Outreach Activities:

- Advertise in media of general distribution.* (See attached advertisement(s).)
- Letter to existing and new customers regarding the availability of Lifeline/Link Up.* (See attached letter.)
- Company's Lifeline/Link Up information in directory.
- Company's Lifeline/Link Up information available on Company website.
(www.companywebsiteaddress.com)
- Company's information posted on USAC website.
- Other (describe): _____

*Required

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NOTICE

Faith Municipal Telephone Company provides assistance to qualifying low-income subscribers to help them establish and maintain telephone service. This assistance is provided via the company's Lifeline, Link Up and Toll Limitation offerings. Lifeline assistance lowers the cost of basic, monthly local telephone service by waiving the end user line charge (\$6.50) and by reducing the monthly service bill by \$1.75. Link Up reduces the cost of initiating new telephone service. Eligible consumers can receive a 50% discount off of the one-time charges associated with initiating telephone service, up to a maximum of \$30.00. Qualifying consumers can also get a deferred payment schedule for remaining costs of up to \$200.00. Toll Limitation Service allows eligible customers to block access to long distance from their local telephone number at no cost.

Eligibility criteria include participation in any of the following programs:

- Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LHEAP);
- Federal Public Housing Assistance or Section 8 housing;
- Medicaid;
- Food Stamps;
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI);

Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF); or National School Lunch Program's free lunch

In addition, those whose household income is at or below 135% of the federal poverty guidelines are eligible for the low-income assistance provided by the Lifeline and Link Up programs and Toll Limitation Service. (2009 guidelines estimated that a household comprised of four people would need to have a total income equal to or less than \$29,764 to meet this criterion.)

Anyone who thinks they might be eligible for these programs should contact Faith Telephone Company at 967-2261.

[Publish February 11, 2009]

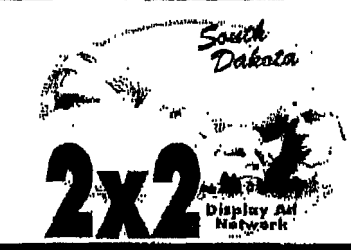
Courthouse, 1425 Sherman Street, Sturgis, South Dakota. No Bidder may withdraw his bid proposal for a period of thirty (30) days from the bid opening date.

Copies of the Plans, Specifications and Contract Documents are on file at the Auditor's Office for Meade County.

[Publish February 11 & 18, 2009]

**You can now
e-mail
The Faith
Independent at:
faithind@faithsd.com**

Reach over 795,000 readers with a 2x2 ad!



An ad this size in 131 South Dakota newspapers! Call for details...

Call your local paper or 1-800-658-3697

**Community-based. Physician Owned.
Affordable Health Insurance.**



www.dakotacare.com

ROSE
Plumbing & Electric

FREE ESTIMATES

**MEADOW SD
605-788-2898**

Sealed bids for ASBESTOS ABATEMENT PROJECT #0901, (ERSKINE BUILDING), Meade County, Sturgis, South Dakota. In accordance with the Plans and Specifications prepared by Anderson Environmental Services, will be received by the Meade County until 9:30 p.m., local time on March 3, 2009 at the Auditor's Office.

FAX NO.: 16059672266

FROM: CITY OF FAITH

Jun. 03 2009 10:51AM P3



CITY OF FAITH
P.O. Box 368
206 Main Street
FAITH, SOUTH DAKOTA 57626
Ph: (605) 967-2261

Dear Customer,

Lifeline, Link Up, and Toll Limitation Service support provide discounts to eligible low-income consumers to help them establish and maintain telephone service. **Note:** Telecommunications carriers cannot charge a Lifeline customer federal USF fees on the local service portion of their telephone bill.

What type of discount is available?

Lifeline assistance lowers the cost of basic, monthly local telephone service. Eligible consumers can receive up to \$8.25 per month in discounts.

Eligible residents of Indian reservations or tribal lands can receive up to an additional \$25 in Lifeline support, but must pay at least \$1 for basic monthly service.

Linkup reduces the cost of initiating new telephone service. Eligible consumers can receive a 50% discount off of the one-time costs associated with initiating telephone service, up to a maximum of \$30.00. Eligible consumers also qualify for a deferred payment schedule for remaining costs of up to \$200.00.

Eligible low-income consumers living on tribal lands are eligible for an additional discount of up to \$70 to cover 100% of the charges between \$60 and \$130.

Toll Limitation Service (TLS) support allows eligible consumers who wish to avoid incurring large long distance fees to choose toll blocking or toll control at no cost.

How do I know whether I am eligible?

Eligibility for Lifeline, Link Up, and TLS support *varies by state*. Individuals who reside in states that have their own discount programs qualify for federal Lifeline, Link Up, and TLS support if they meet the eligibility criteria established by their state. In states that do not provide state support, an individual is eligible if he or she participates in one of the following programs:

- Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP);
- Federal Public Housing Assistance or Section 8 housing;
- Medicaid;
- Food Stamps;
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI);
- Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF); or
- National School Lunch Program's free lunch.

In addition, a consumer may be eligible if his or her household income is at or below 135% of the federal poverty guidelines. (See attached table.)

Residents of Indian reservations or tribal lands qualify if they participate in any of the programs listed above, have a household income that is at or below 135% of the federal poverty guidelines, or participate in one of these programs:

- Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) general assistance
- Head Start (income eligible)
- Tribal TANF

How do I apply to receive Lifeline, Link Up, and TLS support discounts?

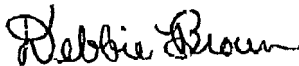
To apply for Lifeline, Link Up, and TLS discounts please contact the City Office at 967-2261.

Important Notice Regarding the DTV Transition

After February 7, 2009, a television receiver with only an analog broadcast tuner will require a converter box to receive full power over-the-air broadcasts with an antenna because of the Nation's transition to digital broadcasting. Analog-only TVs should continue to work as before to receive low power, Class A or translator television stations and with cable and satellite TV services, gaming consoles, VCRs, DVD players and similar products.

Information about the DTV transition is available from www.DTV.gov and from www.dtv2009.gov or 1-888-DTV-2009 for information about subsidized coupons for digital-to-analog converter boxes.

Sincerely,



Debbie Brown
Business Manager

2009 Federal Poverty Guidelines



100% *

Persons in Family or Household	48 Contiguous States and D.C.	Alaska	Hawaii
1	\$10,830	\$13,530	\$12,460
2	\$14,570	\$18,210	\$16,760
3	\$18,310	\$22,890	\$21,060
4	\$22,050	\$27,570	\$25,360
5	\$25,790	\$32,250	\$29,660
6	\$29,530	\$36,930	\$33,960
7	\$33,270	\$41,610	\$38,260
8	\$37,010	\$46,290	\$42,560
For each additional person, add	\$3,740	\$4,680	\$4,300

125%

Persons in Family or Household	48 Contiguous States and D.C.	Alaska	Hawaii
1	\$13,538	\$16,913	\$15,575
2	\$18,213	\$22,763	\$20,950
3	\$22,888	\$28,613	\$26,325
4	\$27,563	\$34,463	\$31,700
5	\$32,238	\$40,313	\$37,075
6	\$36,913	\$46,163	\$42,450
7	\$41,588	\$52,013	\$47,825
8	\$46,263	\$57,863	\$53,200
For Each Additional Person, add	\$4,675	\$5,850	\$5,375

135%

Persons in Family or Household	48 Contiguous States and D.C.	Alaska	Hawaii
1	\$14,621	\$18,266	\$16,821
2	\$19,670	\$24,584	\$22,626
3	\$24,719	\$30,902	\$28,431
4	\$29,768	\$37,220	\$34,236
5	\$34,817	\$43,538	\$40,041
6	\$39,866	\$49,856	\$45,846
7	\$44,915	\$56,174	\$51,651
8	\$49,964	\$62,492	\$57,456
For Each Additional Person, add	\$5,049	\$6,318	\$5,805

► A consumer may be eligible if their total household income is at or below 135% of the federal poverty guidelines in states that follow the federal eligibility criteria. Click [here](#) for a list of states using the federal eligibility criteria.

► States that have their own life means and link up programs may set their own eligibility limits, increasing OR decreasing total household income, or choosing not to use total household income as an eligibility criteria.

► Additionally, some states may use total household income as eligibility criteria, but develop their own limits. For information about income based eligibility in these states contact the state commission.

150%

Persons in Family or Household	48 Contiguous States and D.C.	Alaska	Hawaii
1	\$16,245	\$20,295	\$18,690
2	\$21,855	\$27,315	\$25,140
3	\$27,465	\$34,335	\$31,590
4	\$33,075	\$41,355	\$38,040
5	\$38,685	\$48,375	\$44,490
6	\$44,295	\$55,395	\$50,940
7	\$49,905	\$62,415	\$57,390
8	\$55,515	\$69,435	\$63,840
For Each Additional Person, add	\$5,610	\$7,020	\$6,450

175%

Persons in Family or Household	48 Contiguous States and D.C.	Alaska	Hawaii
1	\$18,953	\$23,678	\$21,805
2	\$25,498	\$31,868	\$29,330
3	\$32,043	\$40,058	\$36,855
4	\$38,588	\$48,248	\$44,380
5	\$45,133	\$56,438	\$51,905
6	\$51,678	\$64,628	\$59,430
7	\$58,223	\$72,818	\$66,955
8	\$64,768	\$81,008	\$74,480
For Each Additional Person, add	\$6,545	\$8,190	\$7,525

* SOURCE: Federal Register, Vol. 73, No. 15, January 23, 2008, pp. 3971-3972
 Please Note: The federal poverty guidelines are typically updated in the end of January.

BILLING NAME & ADDRESS DISCLOSURE

When you place a calling card call, or accept a collect call or third-number billed call, your telephone company is required to provide your billing name and address to the telecommunications service provider that handled the call, if that provider requests. Your telephone company will continue to provide billing name and address information to telecommunications service providers for other account matters, such as customer service, servicing your account, to prevent fraud or when you move from one location to another.

LOW INCOME ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE

Faith Municipal Telephone Company is authorized to provide two federal telephone assistance programs that were developed in response to concerns about the affordability of telephone service for low income citizens.

- The Lifeline program provides reduced monthly charges to telephone subscribers who qualify.
- The Link Up program provides reduced connection charges to telephone subscribers who qualify.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

Subscribers must participate in at least one of the following public assistance programs to be eligible: Medicaid, Food Stamps, Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program, Supplemental Security Income (SSI) or Federal Housing Assistance.

WHAT DO THE PROGRAMS PROVIDE?

Lifeline provides eligible subscribers with a credit of \$6.50 each month on the basic service portion of the telephone bill. The credit applies on the main home telephone line listed in the name of the eligible telephone company subscriber. Lifeline subscribers also may receive blocking of long distance calling on their telephone line at no charge.

Link Up provides eligible subscribers also may receive blocking of long distance calling on their telephone line at no charge.

Link Up provides eligible subscribers with reduced connection charges for their basic home telephone service. This reduction is 50% of applicable charges or \$30.00, whichever is less. Link Up also provides for deferred payment of connection charges without interest. It does not cover the cost of wiring inside the home and is limited to one time per home address per subscriber.

HOW DO I APPLY?

If you meet the eligibility requirements, you must completely fill out and sign an application form. Application forms are available at our office at: Faith Municipal Telephone Company, PO Box 368, Faith, SD 57626.

COULD I BECOME INELIGIBLE?

When you no longer are eligible to participate in any of the above assistance programs, you are no longer eligible for Lifeline or Link Up. You are obligated by law to notify Faith Municipal Telephone Company and advise the company that you are no longer eligible for Lifeline and Link Up.

PAY-PER-CALL BILLING RIGHTS

Some companies offer a variety of informational services using phone numbers beginning with 900. There is usually a charge for calls to these numbers. The price and content of these services are established by the companies providing the information.

For 900 billing disputes or inquiries, please call your local telephone company. You have 60 days from the date of the bill to dispute a 900 billing error review. You have the right to withhold payment of the disputed 900 charges during the billing error review. No collection activity for disputed 900 charges will occur while the charges are under investigation. After investigation, if it is determined that the disputed 900 charges are legitimate, the long distance company, or the information provider, may proceed with outside collections against your account for nonpayment of these charges. Your local and long distance service cannot be disconnected for nonpayment of 900 charges. Failure to pay legitimate 900 charges may result in involuntary blocking of access to 900 services. Voluntary blocking of access to 900 services is available upon request from your local telephone company.