

**SOUTH DAKOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION  
LIFELINE/LINK UP ADVERTISING/OUTREACH  
ANNUAL REPORT  
JUNE 1, 2011**

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](http://www.companywebsiteaddress.com))
- Company's information posted on USAC website.
- Other (describe): \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

\*Required



The 8th grade boys won the Takini Tournament ... on Sat. March 12, 2011. This tournament was a double elimination so they played Takini first and won 63 to 32, then played an Eagle Butte team called Chaos and won 58 to 14, and had to play Takini again for the Championship and won 65 to 18. Back row: Coach Bill Bushong, Josh Afdahl, Gereth Bushong, Chaney Kefler, Dalton Sheridan. Front Row: JJ Halligan, Glenn Palmer and Rio Hulm. Photo courtesy of Marilyn Palmer

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### Legal Advertising

Friday noon before Wed. publication  
The Faith Independent

#### NOTICE

Faith Municipal Telephone Company provides basic and enhanced telecommunications services within its service area. Basic services are offered at the following rates:

Single Party Residence Service – \$9.50/month  
Single Party Business Service – \$17.00/month  
Local residence and business service includes:

- Voice grade access to the public telephone network
- Flat-rated local exchange service free of per minute charges
- Access to directory assistance service
- Access to other operator services
- Access to 911 emergency services
- Access to interexchange (long distance) services
- Dual tone multi-frequency signaling (touch-tone) service

Lifeline and Link Up telephone assistance programs are also available for qualifying low-income subscribers. These programs provide for connection and monthly service discounts on telephone service. To qualify, a subscriber must participate in one of the following programs: Medicaid; the Food Stamps program; the Temporary Aid to Needy Families (TANF) program; the National School Lunch (NSL) free lunch program; Supplemental Security Income (SSI); Federal Public Housing Assistance; Low Income Housing Energy Assistance; or have household income that is at or below 135 percent of the Federal Poverty Guidelines. Subscribers eligible for Lifeline and Link Up may also receive toll blocking service at no charge.

The basic services described above are offered to all consumers in Faith Municipal Telephone Company's service area. If you have any questions regarding telecommunications services, please call Faith Municipal Telephone Company's office at (605) 967-2261.

### WDT to host Surgical

Anyone interested in the growing career field of Surgical Technology is invited to attend a program open house at Western Dakota Tech. The event is scheduled for 6 p.m. Wednesday, March 23, at WDT in Rapid City.

WDT offers an 11-month diploma program in Surgical Technology. Career placement is excellent.

"The healthcare industry values our graduates because they leave ready to step in to a surgical team and perform at a high level," program coordinator Rob Frey said.

Surgical technologists are vital members of the surgical team and are involved in all aspects of a patient's care while in surgery. Surgical technologists are relied upon by surgeons, nurses, anesthesia providers, and numerous other healthcare professionals to be the technical specialists in a vast area of expertise. They are critical members of the healthcare team.

Surgical Technology is a growing field. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, employment of surgical technologists is expected to grow 25 percent between 2008 and 2018, much faster than the average for all occupations, as the volume of surgeries increases.

"This is a great time to enter this challenging, exciting career," Frey said. "Surgical Techs are needed now, and they will be in demand for years to come."



## 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 Blocking support** is available from Faith Municipal Telephone Company. These programs provide discounts to eligible low-income consumers to help them establish and maintain telephone service.

**Lifeline** assistance lowers the cost of basic, monthly local telephone service. Eligible consumers can receive up to \$8.25 per month in discounts. In addition, the Federal Universal Service Charge is not assessed to consumers participating in Lifeline.

**Link Up** reduces the cost of initiating new telephone service by providing a 50% discount off of the one-time costs associated with initiating telephone service, up to a maximum of \$30. Eligible consumers also qualify for a deferred payment schedule for remaining costs of up to \$200.00.

**Toll Blocking** allows eligible consumers to choose this option at not cost. Also, by choosing this option, consumers are usually not charged a deposit.

Customers are eligible if they participate in one of the following programs:

- Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)
- Federal Public Housing Assistance (FPHA) or Section
- Medicaid
- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), f/k/a Food Stamps
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
- Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)
- National School Lunch Program's free lunch

In addition, consumers are eligible if their household income is at or below 135% of the federal poverty guidelines. Consumers who qualify based on household income must provide supporting documentation.

To apply for this low-income assistance, please contact the City Office at 967-2261.

Sincerely,

Debbie Brown  
Business Manager

## 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.

**Link-Up and Lifeline Assistance Application/Certification**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Last) (First) (Middle)

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Street) (City) (State) (Zip)

Phone number where you may be reached or receive messages: \_\_\_\_\_

Have you previously received connection (Link-Up) assistance at this address? \_\_\_\_\_  
(If "yes," you are not eligible for Link-Up assistance at this time.)

Are you requesting:  
Low-Income telephone connection assistance (Link-Up)? \_\_\_\_\_  
Low-Income monthly telephone bill assistance (Lifeline)? \_\_\_\_\_

Indicate with a check mark any of the following programs in which you participate:

- \_\_\_\_\_ Medicaid
- \_\_\_\_\_ Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), f/k/a Food Stamps
- \_\_\_\_\_ Federal Public Housing Assistance – Section 8
- \_\_\_\_\_ Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) Program
- \_\_\_\_\_ National School Lunch (NSL) Free Lunch Program

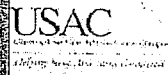
Is your household income at or below 135% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines? \_\_\_\_\_  
(Documentation required)

**Certification:**

I certify under penalty of perjury that the above information is true. I understand I must meet the above qualifications to receive assistance from these programs and I agree to notify my telecommunications provider when I am no longer eligible for Lifeline.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# 2011 Federal Poverty Guidelines



## 100% \*

Persons in Family or Household	48 Contiguous States and D.C.	Alaska	Hawaii
1	\$10,890	\$13,600	\$12,540
2	\$14,710	\$18,380	\$16,930
3	\$18,530	\$23,160	\$21,320
4	\$22,350	\$27,940	\$25,710
5	\$26,170	\$32,720	\$30,100
6	\$29,990	\$37,500	\$34,490
7	\$33,810	\$42,280	\$38,880
8	\$37,630	\$47,060	\$43,270
For each additional person, add	\$3,820	\$4,780	\$4,390

## 125%

Persons in Family or Household	48 Contiguous States and D.C.	Alaska	Hawaii
1	\$13,613	\$17,000	\$15,675
2	\$18,388	\$22,975	\$21,163
3	\$23,163	\$28,950	\$26,650
4	\$27,938	\$34,925	\$32,138
5	\$32,713	\$40,900	\$37,625
6	\$37,488	\$46,875	\$43,113
7	\$42,263	\$52,850	\$48,600
8	\$47,038	\$58,825	\$54,088
For Each Additional Person, add	\$4,775	\$5,975	\$5,488

## 135%

Persons in Family or Household	48 Contiguous States and D.C.	Alaska	Hawaii
1	\$14,702	\$18,360	\$16,929
2	\$19,859	\$24,813	\$22,856
3	\$25,016	\$31,266	\$28,782
4	\$30,173	\$37,719	\$34,709
5	\$35,330	\$44,172	\$40,635
6	\$40,487	\$50,625	\$46,562
7	\$45,644	\$57,078	\$52,488
8	\$50,801	\$63,531	\$58,415
For Each Additional Person, add	\$5,157	\$6,453	\$5,927

► 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 Lifeline and Link Up Programs may set their own eligibility criteria by increasing OR decreasing total household income limits or choosing not to use total household income as an eligibility criterion.

► 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	\$16,335	\$20,400	\$18,810
2	\$22,065	\$27,570	\$25,395
3	\$27,795	\$34,740	\$31,980
4	\$33,525	\$41,910	\$38,565
5	\$39,255	\$49,080	\$45,150
6	\$44,985	\$56,250	\$51,735
7	\$50,715	\$63,420	\$58,320
8	\$56,445	\$70,590	\$64,905
For Each Additional Person, add	\$5,730	\$7,170	\$6,585

## 175%

Persons in Family or Household	48 Contiguous States and D.C.	Alaska	Hawaii
1	\$19,058	\$23,800	\$21,945
2	\$25,743	\$32,165	\$29,628
3	\$32,428	\$40,530	\$37,310
4	\$39,113	\$48,895	\$44,993
5	\$45,798	\$57,260	\$52,675
6	\$52,483	\$65,625	\$60,358
7	\$59,168	\$73,990	\$68,040
8	\$65,853	\$82,355	\$75,723
For Each Additional Person, add	\$6,685	\$8,365	\$7,683

\* SOURCE: Federal Register, Vol. 76, No. 13, January 20, 2011, pp. 3637-3638  
Please Note: The federal poverty guidelines are typically updated in the end of January.