

**SOUTH DAKOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION  
LIFELINE/LINK UP ADVERTISING/OUTREACH  
ANNUAL REPORT  
JUNE 1, 2019**

Company: James Valley Telecommunications

Address: 235 E 1<sup>st</sup> Ave

Groton, SD 57445

\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone number: 605-397-2323

Company contact: Stacy Oliver

Study Area Code: 391664

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.jamesvalley.com)

       Company's information posted on USAC website.

       Other (describe): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\*Required

## **Ads in James Valley area newspapers**

Newspapers used for outreach:

- Groton Independent
- Dakota Press
- Conde News/Doland Times Reporter

### **JAMES VALLEY TELECOMMUNICATIONS PUBLIC NOTICE**

Lifeline service is a government program designed to make monthly residential telecommunication services more affordable to eligible low-income customers. Customers who are eligible for the Lifeline program are also eligible for toll blocking at no additional charge.

The Federal Lifeline discount can be applied to qualifying voice or broadband services. In order to be eligible for the Federal Lifeline discount, a customer's annual household income must be at or below 135% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines or a customer must participate in one of the following programs: Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP); Medicaid; Supplemental Security Income (SSI); Federal Public Housing Assistance; Veterans Pension & Survivors Pension; or qualifying Tribal Programs.

Lifeline is a non-transferable service and eligible subscribers may receive assistance from only one wireline or wireless telecommunications provider per household. Only eligible customers may enroll in the program. Customers are required to submit a Lifeline application form and will be required to certify continued eligibility annually. Customers who willfully make false statements in order to obtain Lifeline benefits can be punished by fine or imprisonment or can be barred from the program.

Basic services are offered to all customers in James Valley Telecommunication's service territories at the rates, terms, and conditions specified in James Valley Telecommunication's tariff. If you have any questions regarding Lifeline service or would like to apply for Lifeline service, please call us at 605-397-2323, toll free at 1-800-556-6525, or visit our business office at 235 E 1<sup>st</sup> Ave, Groton, SD.

## JVT Public Notice

JVT is a telecommunications provider who provides basic and enhanced services within its service territory. JVT is an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier and as such, receives support from the Federal Universal Service Fund. Local service charges are as follows:

### Monthly Rates

#### Andover/Bristol/Claremont/Columbia/Conde/Doland/Ferney/Groton/Hecla/Houghton/Turton

Single Party Residence Service	\$20.00
State Mandated Emergency 911 Services	
Each Single Line Residence	\$ 1.25
Federal Mandated Subscriber Line Charge	
Each Single Line Residence	\$ 8.60
Federal Mandated Communications Impaired	
Each Single Line Residence	\$ .15

#### Frederick/Mellette

Single Party Residence Service	\$21.45
State Mandated Emergency 911 Services	
Each Single Line Residence	\$ 1.25
Federal Mandated Subscriber Line Charge	
Each Single Line Residence	\$ 7.15
Federal Mandated Communications Impaired	
Each Single Line Residence	\$ .15

Customers of basic service have access to the public switched network, minutes of use for local service provided at no additional charge and access to emergency 911 services. Toll limitation services are also available for qualifying low-income customers. Lifeline service is available for qualifying low-income customers. The \$9.25 federal Lifeline benefit may be applied to either qualifying voice services or qualifying broadband services.

Broadband Internet access service is available at the following monthly rates:

- Up to 25 MBPS – \$43.95
  - Up to 50 MBPS – \$53.95
  - Up to 100 MBPS – \$69.95
  - Up to 250 MBPS – \$85.00
- Speeds not available in all areas.

Cell Phone Data Plans are available at the following monthly rates:

- UNLIMITED – \$89.95
  - 15GB Cap – \$69.95
  - 10GB Cap – \$59.95
  - 5GB Cap – \$44.95
  - 3GB Cap – \$34.95
- \$9.95 per GB overage cost

UNLIMITED Talk & Text per handset - \$19.95 or \$39.95/month  
See store for details.

**James Valley Television Ad  
October 2018**



The **Lifeline Program** is a federal program that provides a monthly discount on landline, cell or broadband service to eligible low-income households.

If your household income is at or below 135% of the federal poverty guidelines OR you participate in federal/state assistance programs (Medicaid/SSI, etc) you may qualify for the Lifeline Program.

For more information:

**James Valley Telecommunications:** 605-397-2323  
235 E 1st Ave, Groton

**NVC:** 605-725-1000/1812 6th Ave SE, Aberdeen  
605-475-1000/1316 E 7th Ave, Redfield

# Lifeline Program Application Form



## 1. About Lifeline

Lifeline is a federal benefit that lowers the monthly cost of phone or internet service.

### Rules

If you qualify, your household can get Lifeline for phone or internet service, but not both.

- If you get Lifeline for phone service, you can get the benefit for one mobile phone or one home phone, but not both.
- If you get Lifeline for internet service, you can get the benefit for your mobile phone or your home connection, but not both.
- If you get Lifeline for bundled phone and internet service, you can get the benefit for your mobile phone bundled service or your home bundled service, but not both.

Your household cannot get Lifeline from more than one phone or internet company.

You are only allowed to get one Lifeline benefit per household, **not per person**. If more than one person in your household gets Lifeline, you are breaking the FCC's rules and will lose your benefit.

### What is a household?

A household is a group of people who live together and share income and expenses (even if they are not related to each other).

### Do not give your benefit to another person

Lifeline is non-transferable. You cannot give your Lifeline benefit to another person, even if they qualify.

### Be honest on this form

You must give accurate and true information on this form and on all Lifeline-related forms or questionnaires. If you give false or fraudulent information, you will lose your Lifeline benefit (i.e., de-enrollment or being barred from the program) and the United States government can take legal actions against you. This may include (but is not limited to) fines or imprisonment.

### You may need to show other documents

If the Lifeline Program Administrator is not able to prove you or someone in your household qualify using this form and electronic databases, you may need to show an official document from one of the government qualifying programs or to prove your annual income. You can submit copies of your official documents with this application or wait until the Lifeline Program Administrator asks you for them. To add them now, include the documents in option 1 or option 2 below:

1. If you qualify through a government program: copies of your state ID card and an official document from the programs you are qualifying through (your SNAP card, Medicaid card, etc.)
2. If you qualify through your income: copies of your state ID card and pay stubs for 3 consecutive months (or other accepted documents).

Visit [lifelinesupport.org](http://lifelinesupport.org) to see the full list of accepted documents.

### Apply

To apply for a Lifeline benefit, fill out every section of this form, initial every agreement statement, and sign the last page.

Bring or mail the form to this address:

**James Valley Telecommunications**  
**PO Box 260**  
**235 E 1st Ave**  
**Groton, SD 57445**

# Lifeline Program Application Form



## 2. Your Information

All fields are required unless indicated. Use only CAPITALIZED LETTERS and black ink to fill out this form.

**What is your full legal name?**  
The name you use on official documents, like your Social Security Card or State ID. Not a nickname.

--	--	--	--

First

--	--

Middle (optional) Suffix (optional)

--

Last

**What is your phone number (if you have one)?**      **What is your date of birth?**

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Month      Day      Year

**What is your email address (if you have one)?**


**What are the last 4 numbers of your Social Security Number (SSN)?** [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ]

If you do not have a SSN, what is your Tribal Identification Number?

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**What is the best way to reach you?**

email     
  phone     
  text message     
  mail

**Lifeline Program  
Application Form**



# 2. Your Information (continued)

\*Tribal lands include any federally recognized Indian tribe's reservation, pueblo, or colony, including former reservations in Oklahoma; Alaska Native regions established pursuant to the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (85 Stat. 688); Indian allotments; Hawaiian Home Lands—areas held in trust for Native Hawaiians by the state of Hawaii, pursuant to the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act, 1920 July 9, 1921, 42 Stat. 108, et. seq., as amended; and any land designated as such by the Commission for purposes of this subpart pursuant to the designation process in the FCC's Lifeline rules.

**What is your home address?** (The address where you will get service. Do not use a P.O. Box)

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Street Number and Name

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Apt., Unit, etc. City

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State Zip Code

Is this a temporary address?  Yes  No **Check if you live on Tribal Lands\***

**What is your mailing address?** (Only fill this out if it is not the same as your home address.)

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Street Number and Name

<table border="1" style="width: 100%; height: 20px; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 25px; height: 20px;"></td> <td style="width: 25px; height: 20px;"></td> <td style="width: 25px; height: 20px;"></td> <td style="width: 25px; height: 20px;"></td> </tr> </table>					<table border="1" style="width: 100%; height: 20px; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 25px; height: 20px;"></td> <td style="width: 25px; height: 20px;"></td> <td style="width: 25px; height: 20px;"></td> <td style="width: 25px; height: 20px;"></td> <td style="width: 25px; height: 20px;"></td> <td style="width: 25px; height: 20px;"></td> <td style="width: 25px; height: 20px;"></td> <td style="width: 25px; height: 20px;"></td> <td style="width: 25px; height: 20px;"></td> <td style="width: 25px; height: 20px;"></td> <td style="width: 25px; height: 20px;"></td> <td style="width: 25px; height: 20px;"></td> <td style="width: 25px; height: 20px;"></td> <td style="width: 25px; height: 20px;"></td> <td style="width: 25px; height: 20px;"></td> <td style="width: 25px; height: 20px;"></td> <td style="width: 25px; height: 20px;"></td> <td style="width: 25px; height: 20px;"></td> <td style="width: 25px; height: 20px;"></td> </tr> </table>																			

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State Zip Code

# Lifeline Program Application Form



## 2. Your Information (continued)

Only fill this section out if you are applying through a child or dependent.

Check if you are qualifying through a child or dependent in your household.  
If so, answer the following questions:

**What is their full legal name?**

--	--

First

--	--

Middle (optional) Suffix (optional)

--

Last

**What is their date of birth?**

--	--	--

Month Day Year

**What are the last 4 numbers of their Social Security Number (SSN)?**

--	--	--	--

If they do not have a SSN, what is your Tribal Identification Number?

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# Lifeline Program Application Form



## 3. Qualify for Lifeline

Fill out this section to show that you, your dependent, or someone in your household qualifies for Lifeline.

You can qualify through some government assistance programs or through your income (you do not need to qualify through both).

### Qualify through a government program:

**Check all programs that you or someone in your household have:**

- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) (Food Stamps)
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
- Medicaid
- Federal Public Housing Assistance (FPHA)
- Veterans Pension or Survivors Benefit Programs

**Tribal Specific Programs**

- Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) General Assistance
- Tribal Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (Tribal TANF)
- Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR)
- Tribal Head Start (only households that meet the income qualifying standard)

Or

### Qualify through your income:

(Only fill this out if you do not qualify through a government program.)

Including you, how many people live in your household? (check one)	Is your income the same or less than the amount listed for your state and household size? (only check yes or no next to your household size)				
	All 48 States & DC (not Alaska and Hawaii)	Alaska	Hawaii	Yes	No
<input type="checkbox"/> 1	\$16,389	\$20,493	\$18,846	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> 2	\$22,221	\$27,783	\$25,555.50	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> 3	\$28,053	\$35,073	\$32,265	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> 4	\$33,885	\$42,363	\$38,974.50	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> 5	\$39,717	\$49,653	\$45,684	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> 6	\$45,549	\$56,943	\$52,393.50	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> 7	\$51,381	\$64,233	\$59,103	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> 8	\$57,213	\$71,523	\$65,812.50	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> If more than 8, add this amount for each extra person:	Add \$5,832	Add \$7,290	Add \$6,709.50	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**135% of the 2018 Federal Poverty Guidelines**  
\*The Federal Poverty Guidelines are typically updated at the end of January.

# Lifeline Program Application Form



## 4. Agreement

I agree, under penalty of perjury, to the following statements:

*You must initial next to each statement.*

Initial I (or my dependent or other person in my household) currently get benefits from the government program(s) listed on this form or my annual household income is 135% or less than the Federal Poverty Guidelines (the amount listed in the Federal Poverty Guidelines table on this form).

Initial I agree that if I move I will give my service provider my new address within 30 days.

Initial I understand that I have to tell my service provider within 30 days if I do not qualify for Lifeline anymore, including:

- 1) I, or the person in my household that qualifies, do not qualify through a government program or income anymore.
- 2) Either I or someone in my household gets more than one Lifeline benefit (including, more than one Lifeline broadband internet service, more than one Lifeline telephone service, or both Lifeline telephone and Lifeline broadband internet services).

Initial I know that my household can only get one Lifeline benefit and, to the best of my knowledge, my household is not getting more than one Lifeline benefit.

Initial I agree that my service provider can give the Lifeline Program administrator all of the information I am giving on this form. I understand that this information is meant to help run the Lifeline Program and that if I do not let them give it to the Administrator, I will not be able to get Lifeline benefits.

Initial All the answers and agreements that I provided on this form are true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Initial I know that willingly giving false or fraudulent information to get Lifeline Program benefits is punishable by law and can result in fines, jail time, de-enrollment, or being barred from the program.

Initial My service provider may have to check whether I still qualify at any time. If I need to recertify (renew) my Lifeline benefit, I understand that I have to respond by the deadline or I will be removed from the Lifeline Program and my Lifeline benefit will stop.

Initial I was truthful about whether or not I am a resident of Tribal lands, as defined in section 2 of this form.

I consent to let USAC contact me at my Lifeline phone number for important reminders and updates to my Lifeline service. Message and data rates may apply. Text STOP to end messages.

<b>Signature</b>	<b>Today's Date</b>
<input style="width: 95%; height: 25px;" type="text"/>	<input style="width: 95%; height: 25px;" type="text"/>



# Lifeline Program Application Form



## Notice

**PAPERWORK REDUCTION ACT NOTICE:** Section 54.410 of the Federal Communications Commission's rules requires all Lifeline subscribers to demonstrate their eligibility to receive Lifeline services. This collection of information stems from the Commission's authority under Section 254 of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, 47 U.S.C. §254. Using this authority, the FCC has designated USAC as the permanent Lifeline Administrator. The FCC has published rules detailing how consumers can qualify for Lifeline services and what Lifeline services they may receive (47 CFR §54.400 et seq.). The data provided in response to this information collection will be used by USAC to verify the applicant's eligibility for Lifeline services.

We have estimated that each response to this collection of information will take, on average, between 0.25 and 0.75 hours. Our estimate includes the time to read the questions, look through existing records, gather the required data, and actually complete and review the form or response. If you have any comments on this estimate, or how we can improve the collection and reduce the burden it causes you, please write to the Federal Communications Commission, OMD-PERM, Paperwork Reduction Project (3060-0819), Washington, D.C. 20554. We also will accept your comments via the Internet if you send them to PRA@fcc.gov. Please DO NOT SEND COMPLETED DATA COLLECTION FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS.

Remember – You are not required to respond to a collection of information sponsored by the Federal government, and the government may not conduct or sponsor this collection, unless it displays a currently valid Office of Management and Budget (OMB) control number. This collection has been assigned an OMB control number of 3060-0819.

The Commission is authorized under the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, to collect the information we request on this form. If we believe there may be a violation or potential violation of a statute or a Commission regulation, rule, or order, your response may be referred to the Federal, state, or local agency responsible for investigating, prosecuting, enforcing, or implementing the statute, rule, regulation, or order.

If you do not provide the information we request on this form, you will not be eligible to receive Lifeline services under the Lifeline Program rules, 47 C.F.R. §§ 54.400-54.423.

The foregoing Notice is required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, P.L. No. 104-13, 44 U.S.C. § 3501, et seq.

**PRIVACY ACT STATEMENT:** The Privacy Act is a law that requires the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) and the Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC) to explain why we are asking individuals for personal information and what we are going to do with this information after we collect it.

**Authority:** Section 254 of the Communications Act (47 U.S.C. § 254), as amended, 47 U.S.C. §254, authorizes the FCC to operate the Lifeline program. Using this authority, the FCC has designated USAC as the permanent Lifeline Administrator. The FCC has published rules detailing how consumers can qualify for Lifeline services and what Lifeline services they may receive (47 CFR §54.400 et seq.).

**Purpose:** We are collecting this personal information so we can verify that you qualify for the Lifeline program and so we can efficiently provide Lifeline services to you. We access, maintain and use your personal information in the manner described in the Lifeline System of Records Notice (SORN), FCC/WCB-1, which we have published in 82 Fed. Reg. 38686 (Aug. 15, 2017).

**Routine Uses:** We may share the personal information you enter into this form with other parties for specific purposes, such as: with contractors that help us operate the Lifeline program; with other federal and state government agencies that help us determine your Lifeline eligibility; with the telecommunications companies that provide you Lifeline service; and with law enforcement and other officials investigating potential violations of Lifeline rules.

A complete listing of the ways we may use your information is published in the Lifeline SORN described in the "Purpose" paragraph of this statement.

**Disclosure:** You are not required to provide the information we are requesting, but if you do not, you will not be eligible to receive Lifeline services under the Lifeline Program rules, 47 C.F.R. §§ 54.400-54.423.

# THE NETWORK

Vol. 2 No. 10 – OCTOBER 2018



## OFFICE INFORMATION

235 E 1st Ave  
PO Box 260  
Groton, SD 57445  
(605) 397-2323

OFFICE HOURS:  
Mon.- Fri. 8am- 5pm  
jamesvalley.com

## GET OUR ENEWSLETTER

Getting the newsletter in your mailbox is great, but why not get it in your inbox!

**Sign up for NVC's monthly eNewsletter at [NVC.net](http://NVC.net).**

## FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA

Stay in touch with NVC, check us out on Facebook and Twitter!

## GRAND GIVEAWAY

Congratulations to Lisa Wobst who won a Streaming Package (\$60 Netflix, \$50 Hulu, \$25 Domino's Gift cards and 3 months of free Internet) in our Grand Giveaway!

Wondering how to register? No problem, because there's no purchase or registration, just winners! Each month we will randomly select one of our "grand" residential customers to win. Maybe our next winner will be you!



## SAMSUNG GALAXY S9 NOTE

Upgrade to the Samsung Galaxy S9 Note and experience a bigger display of 6.4 inches, longer battery life, more storage, and the S Pen. The S Pen is water-resistant, can draw on top of videos and photos, and can be used as a remote to take pictures.

Stop by our office today to give it a test drive!



## PARADE MARSHALS

JVT employee Rosalie Gerdes and her husband Jim were chosen to be Parade Marshals for Groton Area High School's Homecoming Parade in September.

Rosalie has worked at JVT for nearly 35 years and Jim has served a number of different roles in the Groton community, including formerly working as a full-time bus driver for the Groton Area School District

They are pictured with Mike Weber.



## SCHOLARSHIP AVAILABLE TO JVT MEMBERS

The South Dakota Telecommunications Association (SDTA) is now accepting applications for the Brian Meyer Memorial Scholarship. Two scholarships in the amounts of \$1,250 and \$500 will be awarded for the 2019 spring semester.

The scholarship is available to applicants who have completed at least two semesters of course work at an accredited post-secondary school in South Dakota. The applicant or applicant's family must be a subscriber of an SDTA member company.

Applicants must complete an application, write a short outline of their career plans following completion of their post-secondary

education, and submit a brief essay on the future of small town South Dakota and what can be done to enhance the quality of life in rural areas through the use of technology. Also needed are a copy of the applicant's most recent transcript and at least two letters of recommendation. The deadline to submit an application for the Brian Meyer Memorial Scholarship is October 30.

For more information on the Brian Meyer Memorial Scholarship, contact any post-secondary institution financial aid office, the South Dakota Telecommunications Association at 605-224-7629 or [admin@sdtaonline.com](mailto:admin@sdtaonline.com). The application is also available online at [www.sdtaonline.com/resources/scholarships](http://www.sdtaonline.com/resources/scholarships).

## NEW MEMBERS

Farmers Union Insurance Johnson Agency Groton 397-8155

## THE NETWORK

A photograph of a woman with long dark hair lying on her back on a white couch. She is wearing a grey t-shirt and dark pants. She is holding a tablet computer with both hands, looking at the screen. The background is a bright, out-of-focus indoor setting.

**Add HIGH SPEED INTERNET Now!**

[jamesvalley.com](http://jamesvalley.com)



## OCTOBER IS COOPERATIVE MONTH

Would you trust a business more if you owned it? Cooperative businesses like James Valley Telecommunications are owned by more than 120 million Americans.

Member owned cooperative businesses touch the lives of virtually all Americans every day and provide almost every product and service imaginable. And since cooperatives are owned by their members, you know you are getting a good deal and that more of the money you spend stays in your community.

JVT is proud to be a part of the communities it serves and demonstrates its commitment through donations, sponsorships,

scholarships, gross receipts taxes, and the involvement of our employees in community service organizations, youth sports, volunteer groups, and more.

One of the best benefits of being a member of a cooperative is the payment of capital credits. For every dollar you spend with JVT, a percentage will be returned back to you! How it works is any income over JVT's expenses results in margins, which are returned over time to the members in the form of capital credits. Over the past 15 years, over 30% of member patronage was allocated back to members. Thank you for your partnership!

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## STATE HS EVENTS TV COVERAGE

### State Soccer Championships Saturday, October 13

- Special Events ch 63 & SDPB ch 66

### State Cheer & Dance Championships Friday - Saturday, October 19-20

- Special Events ch 63 & SDPB ch 66

### All State Chorus & Orchestra Saturday, October 27

- Special Events ch 63 & SDPB ch 3/601HD

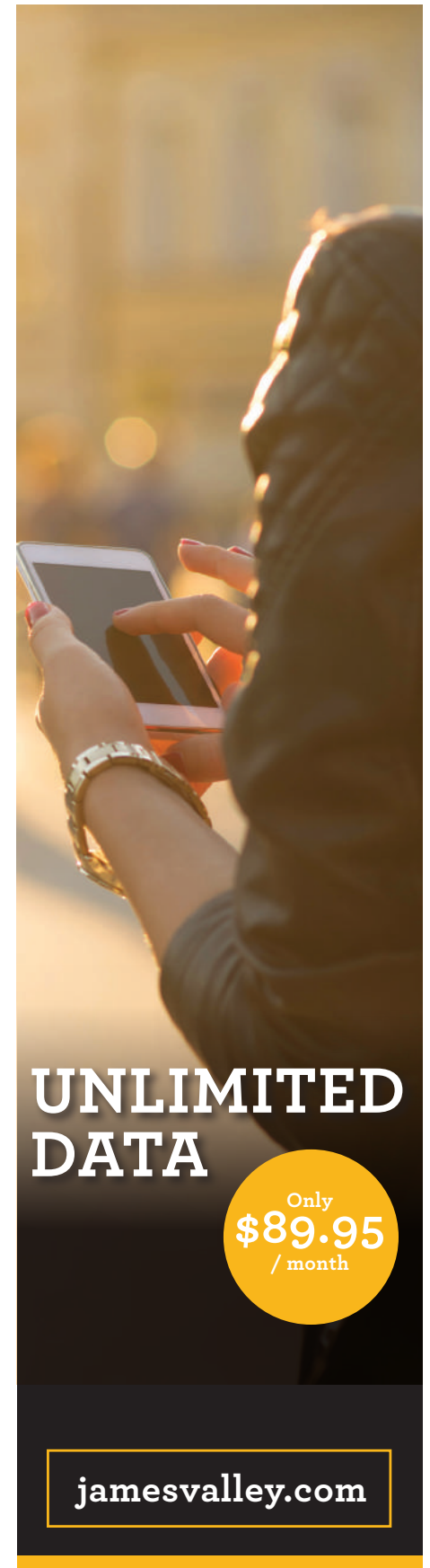
*Check our Facebook page for more information as the dates get closer.*

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## LIFELINE PROGRAM

The Lifeline Program is a federal program that provides a monthly discount on landline, cell, or broadband service to eligible low income households. If your

household income is at or below 135% of the federal poverty guidelines OR you participate in federal/state assistance programs (Medicaid/SSI, etc.) you may qualify for the Lifeline Program. Call 397-2323 for more information.



**UNLIMITED DATA**

Only  
**\$89.95**  
/ month

[jamesvalley.com](http://jamesvalley.com)

# Introducing JVT's CUSTOMER LOYALTY DISCOUNT

10%  
off all  
services

See store or website for details, restrictions apply.

## T-SHIRTS FOR A CAUSE

As part of our T-Shirts for a Cause initiative, we recently collected school supplies from our members and employees to distribute to our local schools. Pictured are JVT employees delivering supplies to Northwestern, Frederick, Groton, and Doland Area schools.

