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

Company:	James Valley Wireless						
Address:	235 E 1 <sup>st</sup> Ave						
	Groton, SD 57445						
Telephone nu	nber: <u>605-397-2323</u>						
Company con	act: <u>Stacy Oliver</u>						
Study Area Co	de: <u>399014</u>						
Lifeline/Link U	o Advertising/Outreach Activities:						
<u>x</u>	Advertise in media of general distribution.* (See attached advertisement(s))						
<u>x</u>	Letter to existing and new customers regarding the availability of Lifeline/Link Up.* (See attached letter.)						
<u>x</u>	Company's Lifeline/Link Up information in directory.						
<u>x</u>	Company's Lifeline/Link Up information available on Company website. (www.jamesvalley.com)						

<u>x</u> Company's information posted on USAC website.

Other (describe):

\*Required

#### Ads in local newspapers

Newspapers used for outreach: -Aberdeen American News -Redfield Press

#### **NVC 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 NVC's service territories at the rates, terms, and conditions specified in NVC's tariff. If you have any questions regarding Lifeline service or would like to apply for Lifeline service, please call us at 605-725-1000, toll free at 1-888-919-8945, or visit our business office at 1812 6<sup>th</sup> Ave SE, Suite 1, Aberdeen, SD.

#### **NVC Public Notice**

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

Monthly Rates	
	Aberdeen/Redfield
	<b>.</b>
Single Party Residence Service	\$16.00
State Mandated Emergency 911 Services	
Each Single Line Residence	\$ 1.25
Federal Mandated Subscriber Line Charge	
Each Single Line Residence	\$ 6.50
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.

Northern 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



# 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 though (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 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:

Bring to:	Mail to:
NVC	NVC
- 1812 6th Ave SE, Suite 1	PO Box 320
Aberdeen OR	Groton, SD 57445
- 1316 E 7th Ave Redfield	

# 2. Your Information

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

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Administrative Co.

Universal Service



# 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.

	nome addre	ess? (The address	where you w	ill get serv	vice. Do no	t use a	P.O. Bo	x)			
Street Number a											
Street Number a	and Name										
Apt., Unit, etc.		City									
State	Zip Code										
s this a tem	porary addr	ess? Yes	N	0	Check	if you	live	on Trib	al La	nds*	
Nhat is you	r mailing add	lress? (Only fill	this out if	it is not	the san	ne as	your ł	nome a	ddres	ss.)	
Street Number a	and Name										
Street Number a	and Name										
	and Name	City									
Street Number a	and Name	City									



Administrative Co.

# 2. Your Information (continued)

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

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

#### What is their full legal name?

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# 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)

#### 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 s state and household (only check yes or no next to	nan the amount listed for your	
	All 48 States & DC (not Alaska and Hawaii)	Alaska	Hawaii
1	\$16,389	\$20,493	\$18,846 Yes No
2	\$22,221	\$27,783	\$25,555.50 Yes No
3	\$28,053	\$35,073	\$32,265 Yes No
4	\$33,885	\$42,363	\$38,974.50 Yes No
5	\$39,717	\$49,653	\$45,684 Yes No
6	\$45,549	\$56,943	\$52,393.50 Yes No
7	\$51,381	\$64,233	\$59,103 Yes No
8	\$57,213	\$71,523	\$65,812.50 Yes No
If more than 8, add this amount for each extra person:	Add \$5,832	Add \$7,290	Add Yes No

Or

135% of the 2018 Federal Poverty Guidelines

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



4. Agreement	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).
I agree, under penalty of perjury, to the following statements: You must initial next to each statement.	<ul> <li>I agree that if I move I will give my service provider my new address within 30 days.</li> <li>Initial</li> <li>I understand that I have to tell my service provider within 30 days if I do not qualify for Lifeline anymore, including:         <ol> <li>I, or the person in my household that qualifies, do not qualify through a government program or income anymore.</li> <li>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).</li> </ol></li></ul>
	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.
	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.
	All the answers and agreements that I provided on this form are true and correct to the best of my knowledge.
	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.
	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.
	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.	Signature Today's Date

5.

#### Lifeline Program **Application Form**



5.	What is the agent's full legal name? The name you use on official documents, like your Social Security Ca	rd or State ID. Not a nickname.
Agent Information		
Information	First	
Answer only if a sales person submits this form.	Middle (optional)	Suffix (optional)
	Last	
	What is the agent's ID number?	What is the agent's date of birth?
		Month Day Year



**Universal Service** Administrative Co.

#### 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.



#### OFFICE INFORMATION

1812 6th Ave SE, Suite 1 Aberdeen, SD 57401

(605) 725-1000

OFFICE HOURS: Mon.- Fri. 8:30am- 5:30pm

REDFIELD: Wed. 10am- 4pm

#### 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.



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

#### 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.

The Note is dust and water resistant, has stereo speakers and wireless charging ability.

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



#### 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.

#### 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 725-1000 for more information.

#### CUSTOMER LOYALTY DISCOUNT

We're so thankful for our long-time customers and want to thank you for your years of continued business. If you've been a customer for 5 years or more, you may be eligible for our

customer loyalty discount of 10% off all your monthly recurring services!

Contact us to hear more about our loyalty discount.

Discount for residential customers only. restrictions apply.

#### **REFER A FRIEND**

Looking for some easy money? Just refer a friend to NVC and you get a \$100 credit on your next bill!

Your friend will get their first month

free and you get the \$100 credit. Make sure to tell them to give your name.

That's \$100 you have to spend somewhere else. So get out there and tell vour friends about NVC!

#### HOW MUCH DATA DOES YOUR FAMILY NEED

If you've been thinking about adding our unlimited data plan to your service and just aren't sure if you need that much, check out our data calculator on our website.

With just a few clicks you can see how much data you and your family needs. It may surprise you when you start to count how many times you

check your email, send a text, check social media sites, or download music.

Our data share plans start at \$34.95. Unlimited data plans are available as well for only \$89.95. All data plans can have up to 10 handsets per plan! You can also add home phone service and high speed internet at discounted prices.

Go to nvc.net/residential/cellphone/data-calculator/ to use our data calculator.



## Add HIGH SPEED **INTERNET** Now!



Visit NVC.net



#### 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!



# **TECH H**<sup>ô</sup>ME



### Protect

- Covers one (1) desktop & one (1) mobile device
- Web security, ransomware protection & bloatware removal
- Anti-theft for your phone or tablet
- Keep your memories and files safe
- Convenient password manager



# Protect Plus

- Covers four (4) devices
   (desktop & mobile)
- Web security, ransomware protection & bloatware removal
- Anti-theft for your phone or tablet
- Keep your memories and files safe
- Convenient password manager

\$10.00/mo.







#### **T-SHIRTS FOR A CAUSE**

As part of our T-Shirts for a Cause initiative, we recently collected school supplies from our customers and employees to distribute to our local schools. Pictured are NVC employees delivering supplies to Aberdeen Public School District (right), Redfield Public School (below, left) and Warner Elementary/ Middle Shool (below, right).





THE NETWORK



#### OFFICE INFORMATION

235 E 1st Ave PO Box 260 Groton, SD 57445

(605) 397-2323

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

jamesvalley.com

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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. The application is also available online at www.sdtaonline.com/resources/ scholarships.



# Add HIGH SPEED INTERNET Now!





#### **NEW MEMBERS**

Farmers Union Insurance Johnson Agency Groton

397-8155

#### 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!

#### STATE HS EVENTS TV COVERAGE

#### State Soccer Championships Saturday, October 13

- Special Events ch 63 & SDPB ch 66

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

## UNLIMITED DATA



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#### **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.

Frederick Area





THE NETWORK

roton Area HS