

EXHIBIT E

SOUTH DAKOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION LIFELINE/TRIBAL LINK UP ADVERTISING/OUTREACH ANNUAL REPORT JULY 1, 2025

Company: Valley Telecommunications Coop Assn

Address: PO Box 7
102 Main St S
Herreid, SD 57632

Telephone number: 605-437-2615

Company contact: Sarah Wientjes or Arnie Hanson

Study Area Code: 391685

Lifeline/Tribal 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/Tribal Link Up within 1st 30 days of service.* (See attached letter.)



Company's Lifeline/Tribal Link Up information in directory.



Company's Lifeline/Tribal Link Up information available on Company website. <https://www.valleytel.net/forms-and-policies/>



Company's information posted on USAC website.



Other (describe):

*Required



Companies Near Me

This tool can help you find companies in your area that offer [Lifeline](#), which can reduce the cost of your phone or internet service by providing a monthly discount.

If you previously received the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) benefit, you should check to see if you qualify for [Lifeline](#). Due to a lack of additional funding from Congress, the ACP stopped accepting new applications as of February 7, 2024. The last fully funded month of the ACP was April 2024, and the program has ended for now.

Find a Company

Enter Your Zip Code

OR

Example: 12345

Enter Your City and State

Select a Program:

☒ Lifeline

Type of Service (Optional)

☐ Home Service

☐ Mobile Service

[Clear Results](#)

Companies near 57437

The order of these companies are random and may be different the next time you search.

Showing 3 of 3 companies

Company Name	Phone	Type of Service
Valley Telecommunications Cooperative Association	605-437-2615	Home Service
Midco	800-888-1302	Home Service
TruConnect Communications, Inc	800-430-0443	Mobile Service

If you want to see more companies, [see the list of companies in SD](#).

More About the Data

- Search results are based on program enrollment and information provided by the companies.
- The search results may include a company listed in your area that may not provide service to your address.
- Also, the search results might not show every company that is near you. A company may still offer Lifeline service even if it is not on the list. Please contact the company to confirm if they offer Lifeline service for your address.

Tell Us What You Think

We will continue to update this tool, so please check back often. If you have any comments or see something wrong - or if you are a company that needs to add or update your Lifeline information, email us at LifelineProgram@usac.org.

[Website Feedback](#) | [Privacy Policies](#)



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OR

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Enter Your City and State

Select a Program:

☒ Lifeline

Type of Service (Optional)

☐ Home Service

☐ Mobile Service

[Clear Results](#)

Companies near 57448

The order of these companies are random and may be different the next time you search.

Showing 2 of 2 companies

Company Name	Phone	Type of Service
TruConnect Communications, Inc	800-430-0443	Mobile Service
Valley Telecommunications Cooperative Association	605-437-2615	Home Service

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Find a Company

Enter Your Zip Code

OR

Example: 12345

Enter Your City and State

Select a Program:

☒ Lifeline

Type of Service (Optional)

☐ Home Service

☐ Mobile Service

[Clear Results](#)

Companies near 57451

The order of these companies are random and may be different the next time you search.

Showing 4 of 4 companies

Company Name	Phone	Type of Service
Midco	800-888-1302	Home Service
Valley Telecommunications Cooperative Association	605-437-2615	Home Service
CenturyLink	800-201-4099	Home Service
TruConnect Communications, Inc	800-430-0443	Mobile Service

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Find a Company

Enter Your Zip Code

OR

Example: 12345

Enter Your City and State

Select a Program:

☒ Lifeline

Type of Service (Optional)

☐ Home Service

☐ Mobile Service

[Clear Results](#)

Companies near 57456

The order of these companies are random and may be different the next time you search.

Showing 2 of 2 companies

Company Name	Phone	Type of Service
TruConnect Communications, Inc	800-430-0443	Mobile Service
Valley Telecommunications Cooperative Association	605-437-2615	Home Service

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Find a Company

Enter Your Zip Code

OR

Example: 12345

Enter Your City and State

Select a Program:

☒ Lifeline

Type of Service (Optional)

☐ Home Service

☐ Mobile Service

[Clear Results](#)

Companies near 57457

The order of these companies are random and may be different the next time you search.

Showing 2 of 2 companies

Company Name	Phone	Type of Service
Valley Telecommunications Cooperative Association	605-437-2615	Home Service
TruConnect Communications, Inc	800-430-0443	Mobile Service

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Find a Company

Enter Your Zip Code

OR

Example: 12345

Enter Your City and State

Select a Program:

☐ Lifeline

Type of Service (Optional)

☐ Home Service

☐ Mobile Service

[Clear Results](#)

Companies near 57631

The order of these companies are random and may be different the next time you search.

Showing 3 of 3 companies

Company Name	Phone	Type of Service
Valley Telecommunications Cooperative Association	605-437-2615	Home Service
Midco	800-888-1302	Home Service
TruConnect Communications, Inc	800-430-0443	Mobile Service

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Find a Company

Enter Your Zip Code

OR

Example: 12345

Enter Your City and State

Select a Program:

☒ Lifeline

Type of Service (Optional)

☐ Home Service

☐ Mobile Service

[Clear Results](#)

Companies near 57632

The order of these companies are random and may be different the next time you search.

Showing 2 of 2 companies

Company Name	Phone	Type of Service
Valley Telecommunications Cooperative Association	605-437-2615	Home Service
TruConnect Communications, Inc	800-430-0443	Mobile Service

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Find a Company

Enter Your Zip Code

OR

Example: 12345

Enter Your City and State

Select a Program:

☒ Lifeline

Type of Service (Optional)

☐ Home Service

☐ Mobile Service

[Clear Results](#)

Companies near 57646

The order of these companies are random and may be different the next time you search.

Showing 2 of 2 companies

Company Name	Phone	Type of Service
TruConnect Communications, Inc	800-430-0443	Mobile Service
Valley Telecommunications Cooperative Association	605-437-2615	Home Service

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Find a Company

Enter Your Zip Code

OR

Example: 12345

Enter Your City and State

Select a Program:

☒ Lifeline

Type of Service (Optional)

☐ Home Service

☐ Mobile Service

[Clear Results](#)

Companies near 57648

The order of these companies are random and may be different the next time you search.

Showing 2 of 2 companies

Company Name	Phone	Type of Service
Valley Telecommunications Cooperative Association	605-437-2615	Home Service
TruConnect Communications, Inc	800-430-0443	Mobile Service

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[Website Feedback](#) | [Privacy Policies](#)



Phone: 605-439-3131
Fax: 605-439-5315
Email: herald@valleytel.net

JAN 3 2025

V-329
1.6728

[illegible]

Affidavit of Publication

STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA

County of McPherson

)
) SS.
)

[Signature] of said county and State, being first duly sworn, on oath says: That the McPherson County Herald is a weekly newspaper of general circulation, and a legal newspaper as defined by Section 7070, 1919 Revised Code printed and published in Leola in said County

and State by [Signature] and has been such newspaper during the time hereinafter mentioned, and that

I, [Signature], the undersigned am publisher of said newspaper, in charge of the advertising department thereof, and have personal knowledge of all facts stated in this affidavit, and that the advertisement headed:

Universal Service Charge
Notice

a printed copy of which is hereto attached was printed and

published in the said newspaper for 1 successive issues, to-wit: The first publication being made on

October 10, 2024

the second on _____

the third on _____

the fourth on _____

the fifth on _____

the sixth on _____

That the full amount of the fees charged for publishing the same,

to-wit: the sum of \$ 21.00 inures solely to the benefit of the publisher of the McPherson County Herald. That no agreement or understanding of any division thereof has been made with any person, and that no part thereof has been agreed to be paid to any person whomsoever.

[Signature]
Notary Public
South Dakota
Publisher

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 3 day of

December, 20 24

[Signature]
Notary Public

My commission expires 8.25, 20 26

Federal Universal Service Charge

Notice

The Federal Universal Service Charge (FUSC) Surcharge Factor recovers the costs associated with Valley Telecommunications contributions to the federal universal service fund program. Effective with the 4th Quarter of 2024 there will be an increase in this charge from 34.4% to 35.8%.



PO Box 7 - 102 Main St S
Herreid SD 57632-0007
www.valleytel.net

Affidavit of Publication

STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA

County of McPherson

)
) SS.
)

[Signature] of said county and State, being first
duly sworn, on oath says: That the McPherson County Herald is a
weekly newspaper of general circulation, and a legal newspaper as
defined by Section 7070, 1919 Revised Code printed and published
in Leola in said County

and State by [Signature] and has been such
newspaper during the time hereinafter mentioned, and that

I, [Signature], the undersigned am publisher of
said newspaper, in charge of the advertising department thereof,
and have personal knowledge of all facts stated in this affidavit, and
that the advertisement headed:

Federal Lifeline Notice

a printed copy of which is hereto attached was printed and

published in the said newspaper for 1 successive
issues, to-wit: The first publication being made on

December 19, 2024

the second on _____

the third on _____

the fourth on _____

the fifth on _____

the sixth on _____

That the full amount of the fees charged for publishing the same,

to-wit: the sum of \$ 35.00 inures solely to the benefit of the
publisher of the McPherson County Herald. That no agreement or
understanding of any division thereof has been made with any
person, and that no part thereof has been agreed to be paid to any
person whomsoever.

[Signature]
Jodi L. Kallas
Notary Public
SEAL
South Dakota
Publisher

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 30 day of

December, 2024

Jodi L. Kallas
Notary Public
My commission expires 8.25, 2026

Federal Lifeline Notice

Valley Telecommunications Cooperative provides basic and enhanced telecommunications services within its service area. Basic Services are offered at the following rates:

Single Party Residence Service \$29.99/month

Single Party Business Service \$29.99/month

Broadband Service is available, contact Valley for additional information.

Eligible Lifeline telephone services provide voice grade access to the public switched telephone network or its functional equivalent; minutes of use for local service provided at no additional charge to end users; access to emergency 911 and enhanced 911 service to the extent the local government in an eligible carrier's service area has implemented 911 or enhanced 911 systems; and toll limitation at no charge to qualifying low-income consumers.

The Lifeline assistance program provides monthly service discounts to qualifying low-income subscribers. Lifeline provides a monthly bill credit of \$9.25 on internet service or \$5.25/month on phone service (home or mobile) per qualified household. To qualify, a subscriber, or one or more of the subscriber's dependents, or the subscriber's household must receive benefits and provide documentation from one of the following assistance programs: Medicaid; Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP); Veteran's Pension and Survivor Benefit; Supplemental Security Income (SSI); Federal Public Housing Assistance; or have household income that is at or below 135 percent of the Federal Poverty Guidelines. The Lifeline program is limited to one benefit per household, consisting of either wireline, wireless and/or broadband service. Lifeline is a government benefit program, and consumers who willfully make false statements in order to obtain the benefit can be punished by fine or imprisonment or can be barred from the program. If an applying consumer is currently receiving Lifeline benefits from an alternate carrier (including a wireless provider), they will need to discontinue their benefits with the alternate carrier prior to receiving benefits from Valley Telecommunications.

The basic services described above are offered to all consumers in Valley Telecommunications's service area. If you have any questions regarding telecommunications services, please call Valley Telecommunication's business office at 605-437-2615.



PO Box 7 - 102 Main St
Herreid SD 57632-0007
www.valleytel.net

RECEIVED

DEC 26 2024

N.W. Blade
PO Box 797
Eureka, SD 57437 US
+1 6052842631
nwblade@valleytel.net

Invoice

BILL TO

Valley Telco Cooperative
102 Main St. S.
PO Box 7
Herried, SD 57632

V-339

1.6728

INVOICE #	DATE	TOTAL DUE	DUE DATE	TERMS	ENCLOSED
29193	12/26/2024	\$108.80	01/25/2025	Net 30	

DATE	ACTIVITY	QTY	RATE	AMOUNT
12/19/2024	Display Ad Display Ad - Federal Lifeline Notice	12	6.80	81.60
12/26/2024	Display Ad Display Ad - Christmas	4	6.80	27.20

A 2% (\$2.00 minimum) service charge will be added to all
past due invoices.

SUBTOTAL	108.80
TAX	0.00
TOTAL	108.80
BALANCE DUE	\$108.80

AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION

The Northwest Blade

P.O. Box 797; Eureka, SD 57437
605-284-2631

STATE OF South Dakota: COUNTY OF McPherson

I, KAITLIN HUBER, am authorized by the publisher as agent to make this affidavit of publication. Under oath, I state that the following is true and correct.

The Northwest Blade is a newspaper which is published weekly and is of general circulation and is in compliance with South Dakota Newspaper Association legalized Statutes.

The notice has been published in the newspaper listed above.

DATE(S) OF PUBLICATION

12/19/2024 – Federal Lifeline Notice

NAME OF THE CORPORATION/GOVERNMENT OFFICE: Valley Telecommunications

TYPE OF DOCUMENT: Legal

AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE: Kaitlin Huber

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN TO BEFORE ME ON THE

23 DAY OF December, 20 24.

NOTARY SIGNATURE: Heather Vetch

COMMISSION EXPIRES: 2-28-30



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PO Box 7 - 102 Main St
Herreid SD 57632-0007
www.valleytel.net



Invoice Number		Invoice Date
650219		12/31/2024
Advertiser No.	Amount Due	Due Date
11171	\$195.00	1/20/2025

RECEIVED

DEC 31 2024

Valley Telecommunications
Accounting
PO Box 7
Herreid SD 57632

A finance charge of 4.5% will be applied to any account where payment is not received by the 25th.

Amount Enclosed

Please detach top portion and return with your payment.

INVOICE

Prairie Pioneer		Valley Telecommunications			Invoice No. 650219		12/31/2024
Date	Order	Description		Ad Size	SubTotal	Sales Tax	Amount
12/16/2024	282389 REM	Display Ad: ROP: Federal Lifeline Notice		2 x 5			\$95.00
12/19/2024	282389 PP	Display Ad: ROP: Federal Lifeline Notice		2 x 5			\$100.00
						Sub Total:	\$195.00
Total Transactions: 2					Total:		\$195.00

SUMMARY Advertiser No. 11171 Invoice No. 650219 Invoice Amount \$195.00

Tear Sheets 1 A finance charge of 4.5% will be applied to any account where payment is not received by the 25th.

Thank you!

Please make checks payable to:

Prairie Pioneer
1413 E Grand Crossing
Mobridge, SD 57601

Thank you for advertising with our paper!

PAY ONLINE at <https://www.pioneer.com/pay-my-bill/>

V-328
1,672.8

Prairie Pioneer

1413 E Grand Crossing • Mobridge, S.D. 57601 • pioneer@valleytel.net • www.ppioneer.com • (605) 889-2320

Valley Telecommunications
Accounting
PO Box 7
Herreid SD 57632

Transaction Period: 12/1/2024 - 12/31/2024

Advertiser Number: 11171

Billing Date: 12/31/2024

Due Date: 1/20/2025

Amount Due: \$195.00

Amount Enclosed: _____

Please detach top portion and return with your payment.

STATEMENT

Prairie Pioneer					12/31/2024
Date	Ref No.	Transaction	Details	Debit	Credit
Balance Forward:				\$66.88	
12/10/2024	648148	Check	57127		\$66.88
12/31/2024	650219	Invoice	Federal Lifeline Notice	\$195.00	
		12/16/2024 REM	2 x 5	\$95.00	
			Display Ad: ROP: Federal Lifeline Notice		
		12/19/2024 PP	2 x 5	\$100.00	
			Display Ad: ROP: Federal Lifeline Notice		

Valley Telecommunications
Advertiser No: 11171
No. of TearSheets: 1

AGING					
Current	1 - 30	31 - 60	61 - 90	91+	
\$195.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	

Balance Forward: \$66.88
Debits: \$195.00
Credits: \$66.88
Amount Due: \$195.00

A fee of 4.5% will be imposed on all balances that are past due.
Please make checks payable to:

Prairie Pioneer
1413 E Grand Crossing
Mobridge, SD 57601

PAY ONLINE at <https://www.ppioneer.com/pay-my-bill/>

Thank you for advertising with our paper!

Affidavit of Publication

STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA,
COUNTY OF CAMPBELL, ss.

I, Marjorie E. Schaffer, being first duly sworn, on oath says, that she is the bookkeeper of the Prairie Pioneer, a weekly newspaper published in Pollock, County of Campbell, and has full and personal knowledge of all the facts herein stated; that said newspaper is a legal newspaper and has a bona fide circulation of at least two hundred copies weekly, and has been published within said county for fifty-two successive weeks next prior to the publication of the notice herein mentioned; that the

Federal Lifeline Notice

Valley Telecommunications

a printed copy of which, taken from the paper in which same was published, is attached to this sheet, and is made a part of this Affidavit, was published in said newspaper at least once each week for 2 successive weeks, on the day of each week on which said newspaper was regularly published to-wit:

1- Monday Reminder: 12/16/2024
1- Prairie Pioneer: 12/19/2024

That the full amount of the fees for the publication of the annexed notice is \$195.00

Marjorie E. Schaffer

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 2/13/2025

Lori Cox

Lori Cox, Notary Public
State of South Dakota

My commission expires January 2, 2031

Federal Lifeline Notice

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Single Party Residence Service \$29.99/month

Single Party Business Service \$29.99/month

Broadband Service is available, contact Valley for additional information.

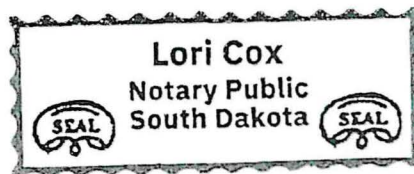
Eligible Lifeline telephony services provide voice grade access to the public switched telephone network or its functional equivalent; minutes of use for local service provided at no additional charge to end users; access to emergency 911 and enhanced 911 service to the extent the local government in an eligible carrier's service area has implemented 911 or enhanced 911 systems; and toll limitation at no charge to qualifying low-income consumers.

The Lifeline assistance program provides monthly service discounts to qualifying low-income subscribers. Lifeline provides a monthly bill credit of \$9.25 on internet service or \$5.25/month on phone service (home or mobile) per qualified household. To qualify, a subscriber, or one or more of the subscriber's dependents, or the subscriber's household must receive benefits and provide documentation from one of the following assistance programs: Medicaid; Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP); Veteran's Pension and Survivor Benefit; Supplemental Security Income (SSI); Federal Public Housing Assistance; or have household income that is at or below 135 percent of the Federal Poverty Guidelines. The Lifeline program is limited to one benefit per household, consisting of either wireline, wireless and/or broadband service. Lifeline is a government benefit program, and consumers who willfully make false statements in order to obtain the benefit can be punished by fine or imprisonment or can be barred from the program. If an applying consumer is currently receiving Lifeline benefits from an alternate carrier (including a wireless provider), they will need to discontinue their benefits with the alternate carrier prior to receiving benefits from Valley Telecommunications.

The basic services described above are offered to all consumers in Valley Telecommunications's service area. If you have any questions regarding telecommunications services, please call Valley Telecommunication's business office at 605-437-2615.



PO Box 7 - 102 Main St
Herreid SD 57632-0007
www.valleytel.net



GIBSON PUBLISHING

PO BOX 7
419 5th Ave.
Ipswich, SD 57451

Invoice

Date	Invoice #
12/18/2024	62235C

Bill To
Valley Cable & Satellite PO Box 7 Herreid, SD 57632

P.O. No.	Terms	Project

Description	Column Inch	Amount
Tribune ad - Lifeline Notice V-342 1,6728	11	44.00
Subtotal		\$44.00

Sales Tax (6.2%)	\$0.00
Total	\$44.00
Payments/Credits	\$0.00
Balance Due	\$44.00

PO BOX 7
419 5th Ave.
Ipswich, SD 57451

RECEIVED
JAN 10 2025

Date _____

12/27/2024

Valley Cable & Satellite
PO Box 7
Herreid, SD 57632

[illegible]

AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION

State of South Dakota)
) SS
County of Edmunds)

D.E. Gibson of said county, being, first duly sworn on oath says: That he is the publisher or an employee of the publisher of the **Edmunds Co. Tribune**, a weekly newspaper, published in the City of Ipswich, in said County of Edmunds, and State of South Dakota; that he has full and personal knowledge of the facts herein stated; that said newspaper is a legal newspaper as defined in SDCL 17-2-2.1 through 17-2-2.4 inclusive; that said newspaper has been published within the said County of Edmunds and State of South Dakota, for at least one year next prior to the first publication of the attached public notice, and that the advertisement headed

FEDERAL LIFELINE NOTICE

a printed copy of which, taken from the paper in which the same was published, and which is hereto attached and made a part of this affidavit, was published in said newspaper for one successive issues.

The First publication being made on the 18 day of Dec., 20..... 24

The Second publication being made on the day of, 20.....

The Third publication being made on the day of, 20.....

The Fourth publication being made on the day of, 20.....

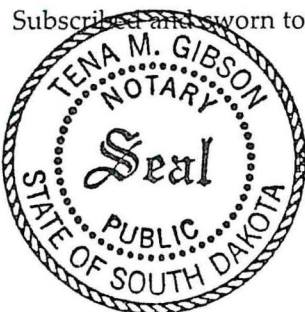
The Fifth publication being made on the day of, 20.....

That the full amount of the fee charged for the publication of the attached public notice insures to the sole benefit of the publisher; that no agreement or understanding for the division thereof has been made with any other person, and that no part thereof has been agreed to be paid to any person whomsoever; that the fees charged for the publication thereof are:

Forty-four Dollars and
no cents (\$44.00)

Signed: 

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 30 day of Dec., 20..... 24



Notary Public - Edmunds County, South Dakota

My commission expires February 26, 2025

Federal Lifeline

Valley Telecommunications Cooperative provides telecommunications services within its service area. Basic Service rates:

Single Party Residence Service
Single Party Business Service
Broadband Service is available, contact Valley

Eligible Lifeline telephone services provide voice service over a switched telephone network or its functional equivalent. Service is provided at no additional charge to end users. Enhanced 911 service to the extent the local government area has implemented 911 or enhanced 911 charge to qualifying low-income consumers.

The Lifeline assistance program provides monthly service to low-income subscribers. Lifeline provides a monthly service or \$5.25/month on phone service (home or mobile). To qualify, a subscriber, or one or more of the subscriber's household must receive benefits and participate in the following assistance programs: Medicaid; Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP); Veteran's Pension and Survivor Income (SSI); Federal Public Housing Assistance. Lifeline is limited to one benefit per household, consisting of voice and broadband service. Lifeline is a government benefit. Willfully making false statements in order to obtain the service or imprisonment or can be barred from the program. If a subscriber is currently receiving Lifeline benefits from an alternate provider, they will need to discontinue their benefits to receive benefits from Valley Telecommunications.

The basic services described above are offered within Valley Telecommunications's service area. If you have any questions about telecommunications services, please call Valley Telecommunications at 605-437-2615.



PO Box
Herreid
WY

AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION

sa)
) SS
)

County, being, first duly sworn on oath says: That he
employee of the publisher of the **Edmunds Co. Tribune**,
published in the City of Ipswich, in said County of
of South Dakota; that he has full and personal
as herein stated; that said newspaper is a legal newspaper
17-2-2.1 through 17-2-2.4 inclusive; that said
published within the said County of Edmunds and
for at least one year next prior to the first publication
notice, and that the advertisement headed

FEDERAL LIFELINE NOTICE

which, taken from the paper in which the same was
is hereto attached and made a part of this affidavit,
said newspaper for one successive issues.
being made on the 18 day of Dec., 20.....²⁴
being made on the day of, 20.....
being made on the day of, 20.....
being made on the day of, 20.....
being made on the day of, 20.....
of the fee charged for the publication of the attached
to the sole benefit of the publisher; that no agree-
ing for the division thereof has been made with any
at no part thereof has been agreed to be paid to any
; that the fees charged for the publication thereof are:
Forty-four Dollars and
no cents (\$ 44.00)

born to before me this 30 day of Dec., 20.....²⁴



Lena M. Giblin

Notary Public - Edmunds County, South Dakota

My commission expires February 26, 2025

Federal Lifeline Notice

Valley Telecommunications Cooperative provides basic and enhanced telecommu-
nications services within its service area. Basic Services are offered at the following
rates:

Single Party Residence Service \$29.99/month

Single Party Business Service \$29.99/month

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Eligible Lifeline telephone services provide voice grade access to the public
switched telephone network or its functional equivalent; minutes of use for local
service provided at no additional charge to end users; access to emergency 911 and
enhanced 911 service to the extent the local government in an eligible carrier's ser-
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charge to qualifying low-income consumers.

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service or \$5.25/month on phone service (home or mobile) per qualified household.
To qualify, a subscriber, or one or more of the subscriber's dependents, or the sub-
scriber's household must receive benefits and provide documentation from one of
the following assistance programs: Medicaid; Supplemental Nutrition Assistance
Program (SNAP); Veteran's Pension and Survivor Benefit; Supplemental Security
Income (SSI); Federal Public Housing Assistance; or have household income that
is at or below 135 percent of the Federal Poverty Guidelines. The Lifeline program
is limited to one benefit per household, consisting of either wireline, wireless and/or
broadband service. Lifeline is a government benefit program, and consumers who
willfully make false statements in order to obtain the benefit can be punished by fine
or imprisonment or can be barred from the program. If an applying consumer is cur-
rently receiving Lifeline benefits from an alternate carrier (including a wireless
provider), they will need to discontinue their benefits with the alternate carrier prior
to receiving benefits from Valley Telecommunications.

The basic services described above are offered to all consumers in Valley
Telecommunications's service area. If you have any questions regarding telecom-
munications services, please call Valley Telecommunication's business office at
605-437-2615.



PO Box 7 - 102 Main St
Herreid SD 57632-0007
www.valleytel.net

TELEPHONE/BROADBAND ASSISTANCE PLAN



The Program

Changes brought about by the Federal Telecommunications Act of 1996 have resulted in the introduction of low-income assistance programs in South Dakota. Low-income subscribers may qualify to receive reduced monthly and installation charges for basic telephone or broadband service.

Valley Telecommunications Coop. Assn., Inc. is authorized to provide the federal telephone assistance program that was developed in response to concerns about the affordability of telephone service and/or broadband for low-income citizens.

Lifeline

The Lifeline program may provide a reduction in basic monthly telephone service or broadband service of: Phone without Internet; Phone & Internet, or just Internet. Please contact our business office for additional information regarding these discounts. The credit applies to the main account listed in the name of the subscriber. Lifeline subscribers may also receive blocking of long distance calls on their telephone line at no additional charge.

* May be subject to change by the FCC.

* This benefit can only be received on either wireless or land line telephone service or broadband service. Each customer can receive only one subsidy.

Who is Eligible?

Telephone service must be in the applicant's name. The subscriber, one or more of the subscriber's dependants or the subscriber's household must receive benefits from one of the following federal assistance programs:

- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program
- Federal Housing Assistance (Section 8)
- Veteran's Pension or Survivor's Pension
- Medicaid (Title XIX/Medical)
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI)

Other Ways to Qualify

A recent FCC ruling has added an additional eligibility criterion that is purely "income-based", and is not tied to subscriber participation in the previously mentioned government assistance programs. You are now eligible to participate in Lifeline if your income is at, or below 135% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines. Current guidelines may be obtained by contacting Valley Telecommunications Coop. Assn., Inc. or visit www.universalservice.org.

Income Certification

If you qualify under the income-based eligibility criterion, and wish to apply for Lifeline Assistance, you must provide our office with supporting documentation of income.* Acceptable documentation of income eligibility includes the prior year's state, federal, or tribal tax return, a current income statement from an employer or a paycheck stub (at least 2 months), a Social Security statement of benefits, a Veterans Administration statement of benefits, a retirement/pension statement of benefits, an Unemployment/Worker's Compensation statement of benefits, federal notice of letter of participation in General Assistance, a divorce decree, child support, or other official documentation. (Subsection 54.410(1)).

**Income for eligibility requirements is defined to include "all income actually received by all members of the household." Income is considered "gross" income, prior to taxes. Exceptions to income include student financial aid, military housing and cost of living allowances, and irregular income from occasional small jobs.*

Could I become ineligible?

If you no longer participate in any of the qualifying public assistance programs, you are no longer eligible for telephone/broadband assistance under the program based criteria. In addition, if the Benefit Qualifying Person is no longer eligible for assistance and you DO NOT meet the income guidelines, you are no longer eligible.

By signing and submitting the application, you certify under penalty of perjury that you, in fact, qualify for Lifeline benefits, and if, at any time, you become ineligible, you will notify Valley Telecommunications Coop. Assn., Inc.

In addition, Valley's compliance with the FCC Regulations will include annual verification of eligibility of program participants. Verification procedures include annual re-certification.

How to Apply

Visit <https://www.lifelinesupport.org>





The Home Team Advantage.

**Valley Telecommunications
Cooperative**

**PO Box 7 – 102 Main St S
Herreid, SD 57632-0007
Ph: 605.437.2615 – Fax: 605.437.2220
www.valleytel.net**

Dear Customer:

Valley Telecommunications participates in the Lifeline assistance program. Lifeline assistance is available if the subscriber, one or more of the subscriber's dependents or the subscribers' household receives benefits from one of the following qualifying federal assistance programs:

- Medicaid
 - SNAP - Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (formerly Food Stamps)
 - Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
 - Federal Public Housing Assistance
 - Veterans Pension or Survivors Pension
- Or
- Individuals whose household income is at or below 135 percent of the Federal Poverty. Guidelines are also eligible for Lifeline assistance.

If you are eligible for Lifeline assistance under any of the programs listed above, please visit <https://www.usac.org/lifeline/rules-and-requirements/forms/> and complete the application form and return to: **USAC, Lifeline Support Center, PO Box 9100, Wilkes-Barre, PA 18773**. This address is also located at the bottom of Page 1 of the online application form.

If the Lifeline Program Administrator is not able to validate that you or someone in your household qualify using this form and electronic databases, you may need to provide an official document from one of the government qualifying programs or documentation that proves 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, provide a copy of a document such as an approval letter or benefit letter with the name of the person in your household who qualifies, name of the program, and issue date within the past 12 months or future expiration date. 2. If you qualify through your income, provide a copy of the prior year's state, federal, or Tribal tax return or a current income statement from an employer or paycheck stub for 3 consecutive months (or other accepted documents). Visit lifelinesupport.org to see all acceptable document guidelines.

To continue receiving the Lifeline discount, you may be required to recertify and will be contacted directly by USAC. Recertification is the one-time process to confirm that all existing Lifeline subscribers meet the National Verifier's eligibility standards. Subscribers will be recertified one year after the date that they are successfully reverified. This benefit can only be received on either wireless or landline telephone service or broadband service. Each customer can only receive one Lifeline subsidy.

If you require assistance completing the form, please feel free to stop by our Headquarters Office at 102 Main St in Herreid, or our Customer Service Center at 419 S 5th St, Ste 4 in Ipswich. You may also contact our business office at 605-437-2615 and we will be happy to assist you.

Sincerely,

Valley Telecommunications

This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.