# SOUTH DAKOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION LIFELINE/LINK UP ADVERTISING/OUTREACH ANNUAL REPORT JULY 1, 2020

Company:	James Valley Telecommunications
Address:	235 E 1 <sup>st</sup> Ave
	Groton, SD 57445
Telephone numb	er:605-397-2323
Company contac	t: Stacy Oliver
Study Area Code	391664
Lifeline/Link Up A	Advertising/Outreach Activities:
	dvertise in media of general distribution.* (See attached lvertisement(s).)
	etter to existing and new customers regarding the availability of feline/Link Up.* (See attached letter.)
<u>x</u>	ompany's Lifeline/Link Up information in directory.
	ompany's Lifeline/Link Up information available on Company website.  ww.jamesvalley.com)
<u>x</u> Co	ompany's information posted on USAC website.
Ot	her (describe):
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\*Required

## General Overview of Lifeline/Link Up Advertising/Outreach

New JVT customers receive Lifeline information (LifelineWebsite) in their new member welcome packet.

We notify all customers of Lifeline in our newsletters once/year (JVT Oct19) and advertise on our Community Channel (Lifeline Ch9) for two weeks twice/year.

We placed the attached notices in the legal notices of the following newspapers: Groton Independent Dakota Press Conde News/Doland Times Reporter

Lifeline information is in our JVT directory (DirectoryPage).

JVT can be searched for via zip code or city/state on the USAC website. https://data.usac.org/publicreports/CompaniesNearMe/Download/Report

Lifeline information is available on our website on the corresponding service pages:

https://jamesvalley.com/residential/internet/ https://jamesvalley.com/residential/cell-phone-service/ https://jamesvalley.com/residential/home-phone/

### 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 1st 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 Newsletter Ad October 2019

# 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.



### LIFELINE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Lifeline is a federal program that provides a monthly discount on phone or internet service to eligible low-income households.

The Lifeline assistance program provides a \$7.25 monthly credit (home phone or cell phone) or a \$9.25 monthly credit (internet) on the qualifying service listed in the name of the eligible subscriber. Only one discount is available per household on either phone or internet service.

To be eligible for the Lifeline program, applicants must participate in at least one of the following public assistance programs:

- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), formerly known as Food Stamps
- Medicaid
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
- Federal Public Housing Assistance (FPHA)
- Veterans Pension and Survivors Benefit
- Tribal Programs (and live on federally recognized Tribal lands)
  OR
- Household income is at or below 135% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines (documentation required)

JVT/NVC is a participating phone and internet provider. For more information or to apply for the Lifeline program, please go to

checklifeline.org/lifeline

## **Directory Page**

# LIFELINE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Lifeline is a federal program that provides a monthly discount on home phone, cell phone or internet service to eligible low-income households.

The Lifeline assistance program provides a \$9.25 monthly credit on the internet service or a \$7.25 monthly credit on the home phone or cell phone service listed in the name of the eligible subscriber. Only one discount is available per household on either home phone, cell phone or internet service. Home phone and cell phone lifeline credits will phase down to \$5.25 per month effective December 1, 2020 and to \$0 effective December 1, 2021.

To be eligible for the Lifeline program, applicants (or child or dependent) must participate in at least one of the following public assistance programs:

- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), formerly known as Food Stamps;
- Medicaid;
- · Supplemental Security Income (SSI);
- Federal Public Housing Assistance (FPHA);
- Veterans Pension and Survivors Benefit;
- Tribal Programs (and live on federally recognized Tribal lands)
  or
- My household income is at or below 135 percent of the Federal Poverty Guidelines (documentation required).

Please visit www.lifelinesupport.org for more information or to determine eligibility or www.checklifeline.org to begin the application for lifeline benefits.

