SOUTH DAKOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION LIFELINE/TRIBAL LINK UP ADVERTISING/OUTREACH ANNUAL REPORT JULY 1, 2022

Company: City of Faith Telephone Company

Address: PO Box 368

204 North Main Street

Faith, SD 57626

Telephone number: 605-967-2261

Company contact: Debbie Brown

Study Area Code: 391653

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://faith.govoffice.com/



V

Company's information posted on USAC website.

Other (describe):

*Required

BILLING NAME & ADDRESS DISCLOSURE

When you place a calling card call, or accept a collect call or third-number billed call, your telephone company is required to provide your billing name and address to the telecommunications service provider that handled the call, if that provider requests. Your telephone company will continue to provide billing name and address information to telecommunications service providers for other account matters, such as customer service, servicing your account, to prevent fraud or when you move from one location to another.

LOW INCOME ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE

Faith Municipal Telephone Company is authorized to provide the Lifeline federal telephone assistance program to make telecommunication services (voice or broadband) available for qualifying subscribers. Eligible subscribers will receive a Lifeline credit up to \$9.25 (dependent on service selected).

WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

If your income is less than 135% of the Federal Poverty Level or if you or a member of your family receives benefits from one of the qualifying programs you may qualify. Qualifying programs are: Medicaid, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), and Supplemental Security Income (SSI), Federal Public Housing Assistance (FPHA) award letter, Veterans Pension or Survivors Benefit Programs.

HOW DO I APPLY?

All applications must be approved by the National Verifier. To apply go to www.checklifeline.org or complete a paper application found at www.lifelinesupport.org and gather copies of your eligibility information to mail to Lifeline Support Center PO Box 7081 London, KY 40742 or contact Faith Municipal Telephone Company.

WHAT INFORMATION WILL BE NEEDED?

The National Verifier will attempt to verify information electronically, if unable to do so the National Verifier could request copies of your tax return or a copy of an official document from one of the qualifying programs identified above. Visit www.lifelinesupport.org to see the full list of accepted documents.

OTHER INFORMATION TO KNOW:

For broadband services to qualify, the service level must be 25 Mbps download and 3 Mbps upload or the best available to you. The Lifeline discount is available for one telephone or service per household, which is defined as any individual or group of individuals who live together at the same address and share income and expenses. Lifeline service is not transferable, and only eligible consumers may enroll in the program. If you move or become ineligible it is your responsibility to notify your service provider within 30 days. Consumers who willfully make false statements to obtain Lifeline service can be punished by fine or imprisonment and can be barred from the program.

PAY-PER-CALL BILLING RIGHTS

Some companies offer a variety of informational services using phone numbers beginning with 900. There is usually a charge for calls to these numbers. The price and content of these services are established by the companies providing the information.

For 900 billing disputes or inquiries, please call your local telephone company. You have 60 days from the date of the bill to dispute a 900 billing error review. You have the right to withhold payment of the disputed 900 charges during the billing error review. No collection activity for disputed 900 charges will occur while the charges are under investigation. After investigation, if it is determined that the disputed 900 charges are legitimate, the long distance company, or the information provider, may proceed with outside collections against your account for nonpayment of these charges. Your local and long distance service cannot be disconnected for nonpayment of 900 charges. Failure to pay legitimate 900 charges may result in involuntary blocking of access to 900 services. Voluntary blocking of access to 900 services is available upon request from your local telephone company.

March 23, 2022 • The Faith Independent • 5

Little Pasture on the Prairie



We've once again passed through the darkest part of the year, and I can't remember it ever feeling quite this good. Though the light has been growing stronger ever since the winter solstice in December, the days are now officially longer than the nights. The growing season has arrived.

Here on the Northern Plains, the vernal equinox (aka the first day of spring) often doesn't feel much like spring. Even if it does by chance land on a warm day, as it did this year, we all know better than to assume spring has officially sprung. Our last frost date isn't until mid-May, and in the nearly 12 years since I first moved here. March and April have often been the snowiest months of all. In other words, though there might technically be enough light for plants to start growing, only the hardiest of hardy stems will attemnt an accout from the still

be at the height of spring's fecundity, we will just be getting started.

I'm not very patient with this process. By early March, I feel like a racehorse trapped behind the gate, waiting for the starting pistol to set me free. I'm ready to be gardening, hands in the soil, fingernails ragged and brown. My solution: start far too many seeds indoors than I technically have room to house. I've spent many an April blizzard tending scraggly, root bound plants, seedlings so leggy they looked ready to walk out of the pots and put themselves into the ground. If the ground weren't covered by a foot of snow, that is.

A few years ago, my husband built me a small, lean-to greenhouse and that's helped some. Now, the dining room table remains a dining room table instead of transforming into a plant hospital; but an unheated greenhouse in western Dakota is only a satisfactory home for a pretty tough seedling, so the counters and window sills still get very crowded. This year I waited longer than usual to start planting my starts until last week, in fact. This feat of restraint can only be explained by the fact that I had some necessary supplies delayed by the mail, NOT because I've actually finally learned my lesson.

The day I began planting it was

looked bleak and brown through the greenhouse walls, the grass stubbled winter gray, but inside it smelled of mud and possibilities. The first flies awakened and buzzing over my head, my sleeves rolled up past my elbows, into the dirt I tucked tomato and pepper seeds I'd saved from last year's garden, then placed them in rows on rusted cookie sheets. They'll be in plastic bags on top of my refrigerator until they germinate, and then spread across the table in front of our south facing picture window for a week or two after that.

Inside the greenhouse, I seeded dirt-filled lick barrels with radishes, green onions, and leafy greens like kale and chard. If I cover them at night we might even have a few leaves to trim as garnish for deviled eggs on Easter. A week after that a small fresh salad perhaps.

Meanwhile the wind breaks are alive with music. The robins have returned with their coarse, shrill whistles, the redwing blackbirds as well, and a few random crows that always migrate through but never stay for long, arrived. "Caw, Caw!' They call politely down to me from the bare, gray branches, sounding nothing at all like the cacophony of crows I remember from my city days.

Next week there might be a blizzard. The week after sleet and ice. (And honestly, as dry as it is, no one will be sad about either of those things – we will take the moisture however we can get it!)

Haines announces candidacy for Meade County Commission



Glen Haines of Faith, SD has announced his candidacy for the District 1 seat of the Meade County Commission.

The Haines family is one of the

oldest families in northern Meade County. Glen's grandfather homesteaded at Fox Ridge, SD in 1910. Two of Glen's brothers are still running/operating the original family ranch.

Glen graduated from Faith High School in 1967, and graduated from US Trade School in Kansas City, MO, in 1968. Upon graduating, Glen went to work for his dad and the company he started in 1965: That company, Haines Trucking LLC, is now a third generation company. It is the oldest livestock hauling company in Meade County.

In 1987 Glen entered politics by running and winning a seat for city alderman, later becoming mayor of Faith, SD, a position he has held for the last 22 years. Glen has been a member of the Faith Volunteer Fire Departm for the last 50 years, has been very active in the Faith Ambulance Service for the past 20 years and has been involved in many other civic organizations.



frozen soil this early. In a few months, when other regions will warm, it felt more like summer than spring. The world outside ally truly spring, and that feels fantastic.

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

Single Party Residence Service Single Party Business Service \$18.00/month \$29.00/month

Services can also be bundled with broadband internet access service (BIAS). Contact Faith Municipal Telephone Company for more information.

Local residence and business service includes:

Voice grade access to the public telephone network -Minutes of use for local service provided at no additional charge -Access to 911 emergency services -Toll limitation for qualifying low-income consumers.

Lifeline is a non-transferable government assistance program available for qualifying subscribers on a monthly basis for voice or bundled voice and broadband service. One discount is available per household. Toll blocking at no charge and reduced deposits are also available with the Lifeline Program.

To qualify for Lifeline, subscribers must be approved by the Lifeline National Verifier. There are several ways to qualify such as having a household income that is at or below 135 percent of the Federal Poverty Guidelines, or the subscriber, one or more of the subscriber's dependents, or the subscriber's household receiving benefits from one of the following assistance programs:

- Medicaid
- Federal Public Housing Assistance (FPHA)
- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)
- Veteran's Pension and Survivor Benefit
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI)

A subscriber who lives on Tribal lands and is an eligible resident of Tribal lands is eligible for Tribal Lifeline service if the subscriber, one or more of the subscriber's dependents, or the subscriber's household participates in any of the above-listed qualifying assistance programs or one of the following Tribal-specific federal assistance programs: Bureau of Indian Affairs General Assistance; Tribally Administered Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF); Head Start (if income eligibility criteria are met); or the Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR). Tribal subscribers may also qualify if the household income is at or below 135% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines.

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

Have news you'd like to share? email your local news to: faithind@faithsd.com

SERVICE ADDITIONAL RECEPTIONIST NEEDED

Faith Veterinary Service is looking to hire additional personnel that is motivated, self-disciplined, detail oriented, & has some knowledge of livestock husbandry.

Primary responsibilities will include answering phones, billing, order preparation, appointment scheduling, & light cleaning duties.

We are looking for a team player that enjoys a fast-paced environment with an opportunity to learn new skills. Skills required include computer operation, multi-tasking ability, attention to detail & excellent customer service.

Compensation & benefits based on experience & ability to learn new skills. Must be reliable.

Submit resume & references in person, mail or email to: Faith Veterinary Service Po Box 488, Faith, SD 57626 thevet@faithsd.com

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 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.

Apply

To apply for a Lifeline benefit, fill out the required sections of this form, initial every agreement statement, and sign on page 6. Mail the form to this address: USAC Lifeline Support Center P.O. Box 7081 London, KY 40742

Lifeline Program **Application Form**



Universal Service Administrative Co.

2a.
Your
Information

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

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*If I selected the phone or text option, I consent to let USAC contact me at my Lifeline phone number for important reminders and updates to my Lifeline service.

If I selected the text message option, message and data rates may apply.

Text STOP to end messages.

Lifeline Program **Application** Form



Universal Service Administrative Co.

2b. 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 FCC for purposes of this subpart pursuant to the designation process in the FCC's Lifeline rules.

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Apt., Unit, etc.		City									
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State Zip	coue										
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Lifeline Program **Application Form**





2c. Your Information (continued)

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

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What is th	eir date of	birth?											
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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)

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, and Territories (not Alaska and Hawaii)	Alaska	Hawaii					
1	\$17,388	\$21,722	\$20,007	Yes	No			
2	\$23,517	\$29,390	\$27,054	Yes	No			
3	\$29,646	\$37,058	\$34,101	Yes	No			
4	\$35,775	\$44,726	\$41,148	Yes	No			
5	\$41,904	\$52,394	\$48,195	Yes	No			
6	\$48,033	\$60,062	\$55,242	Yes	No			
7	\$54,162	\$67,730	\$62,289	Yes	No			
8	\$60,291	\$75,398	\$69,336	Yes	No			
If more than 8, add this amount for each extra person:	Add \$6,129	Add \$7,668	Add \$7,047	Yes	No			

Or

135% of the 2021 Federal Poverty Guidelines

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

Lifeline Program **Application Form**





4. Agreement Jagree, under penalty of perjury, to the following statements: You must initial next to each statement.	 I (or my dependent or other person in my household) currently get benefits from the gove program(s) listed on this form or my annual household income is 135% or less than the Ferenerica Poverty Guidelines (the amount listed in the Federal Poverty Guidelines table on this form I agree that if I move I will give my service provider my new address within 30 days. I understand that I have to tell my service provider within 30 days if I do not qualify for Lifel anymore, including: I, or the person in my household that qualifies, do not qualify through a governmen program or income anymore. Either I or someone in my household gets more than one Lifeline benefit (including than one Lifeline broadband internet service, more than one Lifeline telephone service both Lifeline telephone and Lifeline broadband internet services). 					
	I know that my household can only get one Lifeline benefit a my household is not getting more than one Lifeline benefit.	nd, to the best of my knowledge,				
	I agree that all of the information I provide on this form may be for the purposes of applying for and/or receiving the Lifeline F if this information is not provided to the Lifeline Program Adm Lifeline benefits. If the laws of my state or Tribal government government may share information about my benefits for a of Program Administrator. The information shared by the state to help find out if I can get a Lifeline Program benefit.	Program benefit. I understand that ninistrator, I will not be able to get require it, I agree that the state or Tribal Jualifying program with the Lifeline				
	All the answers and agreements that I provided on this form of my knowledge.	are true and correct to the best				
	I know that willingly giving false or fraudulent information to punishable by law and can result in fines, jail time, de-enrollr program.					
	My service provider may have to check whether I still qualify (renew) my Lifeline benefit, I understand that I have to response Initial removed from the Lifeline Program and my Lifeline benefit	ond by the deadline or I will be				
	I was truthful about whether or not I am a resident of Tribal this form.	lands, as defined in section 2 of				
	Signature	Today's Date				

L

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 Carc	l 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 date	o of hirth?
	What is the agent's ID number?		
		Month Day	Year

Lifeline Program **Application Form**





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 FCC'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.