



July 14, 2020

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission | Office of the Secretary  
445 12th Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Ms. Dortch,

Literacy Rochester improves the reading, English language, math, and digital literacy skills of adults in Monroe County, New York. Our trained volunteers focus on underserved students, adults, and senior citizens throughout the greater Rochester area to teach digital literacy, including basic computer skills, and to assist technology-challenged individuals with completing essential tasks. I write to support Charter's request that the FCC end the conditions around data caps, usage-based billing, and interconnection.

Literacy Rochester has worked closely with Charter on various initiatives. In 2018, we received \$110,000 in funding through the Spectrum NYS Broadband Access and Learning Grant initiative. Literacy Rochester used these funds to launch five Spectrum mobile learning labs in Rochester-area libraries where our volunteer navigators provide access to laptops and free on-site drop-in services to participants who need assistance with technology as well as a state-of-the-art Spectrum Computer Center at our main office in Rochester. The Center is accessible by local, underserved students, adults, and senior citizens on weekdays for digital, English language, and math skills training, among other topics. In late November of 2018, Literacy Rochester received \$15,000 through a Spectrum Digital Education grant, which provides training programs and support to staff and volunteers, without whom none of what we do would be possible.

This year, Charter provided \$4,000 in funding to help launch our new pilot program, "Getting Technology in the Hands of Those in Need." The program provides Chromebooks, tablets, and internet service to participants in both their Instructional and Digital Literacy programs. Participants will receive a Chromebook or tablet in addition to internet service for 3 to 6 months.

Like Literacy Rochester, Charter is committed to bridging the digital divide and expanding access to broadband internet in our region and we are pleased to offer them our support.

Sincerely,



Josh Stapf  
Development Director