

To whom it may concern,

Foxboro Cable Access (FCA) has been an amazing asset to Foxboro for decades and its impact on this community is remarkable. My hope in writing this letter is that the Federal Communication Commission knows the profound impact strong public access television has on our community, and any community. The reliable funding and resources provided through the Cable Television Act of 1984 makes that impact possible, and must be preserved.

I have had the pleasure of working with many of the volunteers at FCA, as a Coordinator for the Town’s Rec Dept., the Founder and Executive Director of ConfiKids, a non- profit organization, and also as a private citizen. I have seen their unparalleled dedication to videotaping town events, showing these programs on the PEG Access channels, and creating copies for parents to enjoy for years to come.

Our organization’s mission is to build confidence in children by financially assisting their enrollment fees in enrichment, sports and arts programs. FCA has listed our events and fundraising activities on their channels so the community can learn about our efforts, volunteer, donate or participate. They have consistently been supportive of our efforts as a small non-profit in Foxborough. However, the way I feel they have most impacted this community is in their efforts to foster interest in media technology in our residents, especially young people. We realize the many intangible benefits to children when they participate in non-school activities that develop their interests and abilities. Our respect and gratitude for FCA’s commitment to this mission has created a new understanding of what FCA means to this community.

Since its earliest operation in 1983, FCA has welcomed young people with an interest in TV production, video engineering, writing or performance skills to participate in studio and remote production, or produce programming of their own ... *all at no charge.*  Hundreds of Foxboro students have been offered the opportunity to use the facilities and equipment for their personal enrichment, just

like members of the community of any age, or participated in curricular or co-

curricular classes and activities sponsored by FCA at Foxborough High School or Ahern Middle School.  For most of them, their participation added a unique dimension to their teenage years, but dozens took a serious interest and have gone on to further education and are working today at significant professional careers in the Communications industry nationwide.   There is no better way to impact a community then to give a child a path to follow to explore their interests and talent. Once again, FCA has given back to our town in this amazing way.

Sincerely,

Rachel Calabrese

Executive Director & Founder

Confikids, Inc.

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