



Tri-Cities Affiliate
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August 28, 2015

RE: MB Docket No. 15-149

Tom Wheeler, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Chairman Wheeler,

I am honored to serve as the Executive Director for the Tri-Cities Affiliate of Susan G. Komen®. We are *the* local source for funding programs that provide breast health services, breast cancer education, and outreach in 23-counties across Upper East Tennessee, Southwest Virginia, and Northwest North Carolina.

At Komen Tri-Cities, we utilize 75 percent of net funds raised to ensure access to essential breast health services through our local Community Grants program. We dedicate the remaining 25 percent to national research to find the cures. Since 2005, Komen Tri-Cities has raised over \$3.4 million—providing more than \$2.6 million for local breast health programs and contributing in excess of \$800,000 to national research grants.

Regarding the merger of Charter Communications, Time Warner Cable, and Bright House Networks into New Charter, we feel this merger has the potential to have a significant positive impact in our local community as well as throughout the expanded footprint of New Charter. As a Promise Partner, Charter Communications has been an invaluable asset to Komen Tri-Cities, contributing in-kind media advertising and support in excess of \$30,000 (in 2014 alone)—not to mention the hundreds of volunteer hours logged by Komen Tri-Cities Board Member Lisa Faust (Media Marketing Manager, Charter Spectrum) and other local Charter volunteers.

With respect to New Charter's commitment to maintaining pro-consumer strategies, we appreciate their promise to maintain a free and open Internet. As a non-profit organization, cultivating and leveraging strategic partnerships and in-kind contributions enables us to allocate the vast majority of our fundraising revenue directly to our mission [which is to *save lives* and *end breast cancer forever!*]. New Charter's commitment to not blocking, not slowing down Internet traffic, and not engaging in paid prioritization will enable us to remain competitive within the non-profit arena, maximizing our limited marketing dollars while continuing to cultivate and leverage vital community, media, and promotional relationships.

We also appreciate New Charter's commitment to promoting diversity and inclusion in the communities it serves. Breast cancer is no respecter of age, socio-economic status, race, heritage, or even gender. It is essential that we *never* stop working to reach into *all* communities. New Charter understands this and we are pleased to continue our long-standing partnership with them as they move forward with the merger process.

Please consider the existing passion Charter Communications has for cultivating strong community ties. I believe they are committed to carrying forward this community-minded approach as they merge to become New Charter.

Sincerely,

Lisa Marie Pierson
Executive Director