

**Before the  
Federal Communications Commission  
Washington, D.C. 20554**

TO: The Wireless Competition Bureau

DATE: May 15, 2007

RE: Petition for Waiver of Deadline for Submission of Grant Application for the Rural Health Care Pilot Program.

DOCKET No.: 02-60

On behalf of United Health Services Hospitals and all of the associated rural health care clinics in the following counties: Broome, Chenango, Delaware, Tioga, we sincerely request a waiver of the May 7, 2007 date for filing the application for the Rural Health Care Pilot program. This request is based on the following circumstances. On May 4, 2007 the FCC.gov rural health care link was under maintenance making it impossible to confirm the correct address for mailing. On the same date around 10:00 AM, we called the Office of Wireless Competition Bureau to confirm the filing address for the proposal. We were specifically told to send our Grant proposal to:

Wireline Competition Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, 445  
12th Street, SW, Washington, DC 20554. United Health Services carrier is FedEx and the following is the tracking information relevant to the proposal's delivery by FedEx:

Tracking number 861421640183, Delivered by Priority Envelope,

Signed by T Hairston on May 8, 2007 at 9:47 AM

Date/Time	Activity	Location	Details
<b>May 8, 2007</b>	9:47 AM <b>Delivered</b>		
	8:23 AM On FedEx vehicle for delivery	CROFTON, MD	
	7:39 AM At local FedEx facility	CROFTON, MD	
	2:30 AM At dest sort facility	BALTIMORE, MD	
<b>May 7, 2007</b>	7:02 AM Delivery exception	WASHINGTON, DC	Incorrect address
<b>May 5, 2007</b>	8:39 AM At local FedEx facility	WASHINGTON, DC	Package not due for delivery
	3:47 AM Departed FedEx location	MEMPHIS, TN	
<b>May 4, 2007</b>	11:17 PM Arrived at FedEx location	MEMPHIS, TN	
	7:25 PM Left origin	BINGHAMTON, NY	
	5:37 PM Picked up	BINGHAMTON, NY	

The package was delivered to the FCC Office at Washington D.C. before the deadline, The Washington D.C. office then redirected our proposal to the FCC Maryland office.

We would like respectfully to request a waiver of the deadline for the Grant Application

for the Rural Health Care Pilot Program as it is vital to health care in our rural upstate New York communities.

The Need in Our Counties:

As described in our strategic plan supported by the American Academy of Pediatrics

(2003 AAP CATCH report), the counties of Broome, Chenango, Delaware, and Tioga are located in upstate New York. The area is largely rural. The four counties comprise 3,566 square miles with a per square mile population of 98.6 persons. The only metropolitan area is Binghamton, which lies within Broome County. Throughout the region there has been a decline in non-farm employment. Hardest hit by this decline has been Chenango County, which experienced an 11.4% decline (1990-1999) and Broome County with an 8.4% decline.

Successfully identifying a strategy to expand the Virtual Pediatric Center within the region brings the rich possibility that children will have "medical homes" that are indeed comprehensive, competent, and strengthened through a collaborative network. Such a network becomes a virtual medical home for all that need it.

Please direct any concerns/replies by email to:

Anu Banerjee at United Health Services Hospitals: [Anu\\_Banerjee@uhs.org](mailto:Anu_Banerjee@uhs.org)