



April 1, 2009

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

Re: Reply Comments CSR-8126, ACM *et al*, MB Docket No. 09-13

Dear Ms. Dortch:

SAVE THE PATIENT urges the FCC to grant this Petition to protect public, education and government (PEG) Access, the local, noncommercial channels that are expressly devoted to serving the public. In Chicago, **SAVE THE PATIENT** uses Chicago Access Network Television (CAN TV) as an important means to reach viewers in need of our services. This petition details ways in which AT&T's U-Verse system places PEG channels at a disadvantage with inferior technology in comparison to other channels on its system. For our organization, that means losing the connection with local viewers that enables us to extend our services to the community via television.

SAVE THE PATIENT offers health information to the public in order to educate, inform and empower them to take control and responsibility for their health care on local PEG channels to residents of Chicago. **STP** has provides noncommercial governmental and educational resources for those who cannot pay for medical care, have no health insurance, and for those unable to understand the complex health system.

STP provides Health Caring Cards in English, Spanish, Chinese, and Polish free for the public to use when they are in the health care system. On our show, we explain what their rights are, how to plan for the health encounter, what to ask while at the doctor or the health provider, information about prescription medications, and the health history with information such as: what illness they have, what medications they take, and what medications they are allergic to, in a wallet size to carry on their person for medical professionals to use in emergency situations, or if the viewer cannot speak English well.

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For nearly three years, we have top medical professionals, educators, nonprofit, and government guests pro bono, on our show, “**Community Health**” without commercial interruption, without trying to convince them to buy products, or services. Our information helps the public find health resources such as: Covered the Uninsured Week, our back to school informational resources provided by the city, state, and federal government health centers for school exams. We do our monthly shows in an easy-to-understand manner with viewers calling in asking questions and sharing their concerns.

Without the support of Cable Access Television, (CAN TV), we would not have this opportunity to reach hundreds of thousands of Chicagoans with health information that may someday use for them, or their families, saving them from medical error and helping them save money by encouraging them to seek preventative health services. These efforts will save the government the \$100 Billion in money spent on preventable medical error and health literacy costs associated with an uneducated population.

We would not be able to provide this service within our nonprofit budget, nor obtain our prominent guests to spend 25 uninterrupted minutes helping our viewers without payment, just the knowledge that their only mission is to **save the patient**. Our audience knows we advocate for them, that they are most important to us that we are not trying to sell them any medical products, or services. They can rest assured that “Community Health is a program for, and about them. It is their show. It truly is our democracy at work! Each of them has a voice and an opportunity to learn on public television. Viewers are empowered to take control of their health.

SAVE THE PATIENT programming needs to be easily accessible to viewers not placed in an inferior format that viewers will have difficulty finding and using. Fair policies and regulations must prevent discriminatory practices like this, particularly given the vast resources and capabilities of large companies like AT&T.

We urge you to act, on behalf of the people, and in the public interest by decisively granting this petition.

Sincerely,

Lenore Janecek,

President and Founder

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