

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Greater Columbia, Inc.

P.O. Box 2559

Columbia SC 29202

Phone: (803) 691-5700 • Fax: (803) 691-5701

www.bbbsgc.org

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Robin O'Neil
President/CEO

May 19, 2011

Robin O'Neil
President
Big Brothers Big Sisters of Greater Columbia
4300 North Main Street
Columbia, SC 29203

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

RE:Connect America Fund, WC Docket No. 10-90, A National
Broadband Plan for Our Future, GN
Docket No. 09-51, High-Cost Universal Service Support, WC Docket
No. 05-337

Dear Ms. Dortch:

My name is Robin O'Neil. I am the President of Big Sisters Big Brothers of Greater Columbia, South Carolina. Big Brothers Big Sisters is the oldest, largest and most effective youth mentoring organization in the United States. We have been the leader in one-to-one youth service for more than a century, developing positive relationships that have a direct and lasting impact on the lives of young people. We serve children, ages 5 through 18, in communities across the country. Our chapter in Greater Columbia, South Carolina strives to help children reach their potential through professionally supported, one-to-one relationships with measurable impact.

National research has shown that positive relationships between youth and their Big Brothers and Big Sisters have a direct and measurable impact on children's lives. Little brothers and sisters are more confident in their schoolwork performance, able to get along better with their families, less likely to begin using illegal drugs and alcohol and also less likely to skip school.

As President of the Big Brothers Big Sisters of Greater Columbia, I see young people every day who crave the love,



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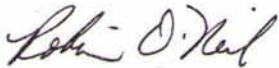
counsel, and mentoring that only a big sister or big brother can provide. These are young people in need.

We strive to reach as many young people as possible at Big Brothers Big Sisters of Greater Columbia. We know that the less we spend on operating costs, the more we can allocate to reaching out to young people. That is why we choose to use FreeConferenceCall.com.

Using this service is a crucial component to ensuring our operating expenses are low, while preserving effective communication. If I was using the conferencing services of one the large phone carriers, our non-profit would be charged considerably more for the exact same service.

I was unaware these services may be in jeopardy until FreeConferenceCall.com reached out to me. As the Federal Communications Commission moves forward considering these issues, I respectfully ask you to consider organizations such as the Big Brothers Big Sisters of Greater Columbia. We have been able to touch the lives of more children due to the cost savings we gain from using this service.

Sincerely,



Robin O'Neil
President
Big Brothers Big Sisters of Greater Columbia

CC: Chairman Julius Genachowski
Commissioner Michael J. Copps
Commissioner Robert M. McDowell
Commissioner Mignon Clyburn
Commissioner Meredith Attwell Baker