

Benton Foundation
1250 Connecticut Ave., NW, Suite 200
Washington, DC 20036

January 24, 2012

NOTICE OF EX PARTE

Ms. Marlene Dortch
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th St. SW
Washington, D.C. 20554

**Re: Lifeline Link Up Reform and Modernization - WC Docket No. 11-42
Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service – CC Docket No. 96-45
Lifeline and Link Up – WC Docket No. 03-109**

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On Tuesday January 24, 2012 Amina Fazlullah of the Benton Foundation¹ had a meeting with Angela Kronenberg Wireline Advisor to Commissioner Clyburn regarding the above caption Lifeline and Link Up proceedings.

The Benton Foundation urged the Commission to transition the Lifeline and Link Up programs to include broadband. Benton discussed the possible benefits to be gained from the proper gathering of data and evaluation with respect to potential pilot program. Benton also emphasized the need to clarify the eligibility rules for shared and group living residents.

Sincerely,
/s/
Amina Fazlullah
Policy Counsel
Benton Foundation

¹ www.benton.org, Benton Foundation public filings, including but not limited to these reply comments, represent the institutional view of the Foundation as opposed to the views of any individual officer or director.