

Request for Review

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Funding Commitment Decision Letter (Funding Year 2012: 07/01/2012 – 06/30/2013)

Document Date: August 21, 2012

Organization Name: Seven Hills Charter Public School

BEN: 717

Service Provider: Choice One Communications of Massachusetts, Inc.

SPIN: 143019317

Form 471 Application Number: 871635

Funding Request Number: 2377518

Form 470 Application Number: 910330000992515

USAC Appeal Denied – Date: November 07, 2012

This appeal is based on Item #21 Attachments not promptly and/or submitted before deadline. Unfortunately, I'm unable to locate the original fax cover sheet sent for this specific Telecom Item #21 attachment. I received an email requesting a reply for this missing document, but the Initial Reviewer – Program Integrity Assurance agent was reassigned to other duties and inquiry assigned to a David Nelson. Mr. Nelson indicated no response was made on initial attempted contact as documented on Ms. Lu's report, though a response was sent out to her at the time of contact. Additionally, communications with Mr. Nelson were a bit delayed as a result of response emails filtered into Mr. Nelson's spam folder. There is the possibility that this may have been the case with Ms. Lu seemingly not receiving a response and possibly due to spam filter settings. During talks with Mr. Nelson I emailed all documentation regarding our Telecom Services and contract and requested though the contract did expire as it was understood the services were continuous month-to-month and charges will continue to apply. The offer to continue with provider would stay the same as in previous years and monthly charges would not change and/or contract terminated. Unfortunately, fax documentation as proof of delivery and the Item #21 Attachment are not available, but contract information immediately sent upon PIA inquiry. In essence, all documentation was on file as provided in previous years with this telecom provider and all previously existing services were kept as-is. All services are only a Basic & Long Distance contract with the bare essentials needed and all FCC competitive bidding requirements were met. Currently, we fall under 90% funding and this plays a vital role every year here at Seven Hills Charter Public School budget. Every year we submit all Item #21 Attachments in a timely manner before deadline and follow all procedures outlined. The year in question there may have been an error with filing as the fax cover sheet is not available and we're requesting this be waived. At first contact all documentation was sent/submitted to Lindsey Lu on Thursday June 28, 2012 at 09:59:50am and to David Nelson on both

July 26 at 09:58:24am and July 3 at 12:07:55pm. These dates are past deadlines and documentation of fax sheets not available, but our decision to continue with provider was based on fair and reasonable services by comparison to other providers and no special offers or additional benefits were acquired or made. The contract is the same exact one in previous years and offers the bare essentials at the best price which happens to be lower than the competition. About three years ago we decided to leave a major provider in Verizon and overhauled our hardware to receive higher broadband speeds at a comparable and lower rate. We followed the letter of the law and found the best provider with base offerings and no additional benefits or options.

We greatly appreciate the time and effort made accessing this request.

I've attached existing contract and complete documentation/information on file and a PDF of this Word document.

Sincerely,

David Rosario
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