August 5, 2014

Mr. Tom Wheeler
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

RE: MB Docket No. 14-57

Dear Chairman Wheeler,

By The Hand Club For Kids has partnered with Comcast over the past six years to help meet the most pressing needs for the education and safety of children living in at-risk neighborhoods of Chicago.

Overview of By The Hand

By The Hand is an after-school program that started with 16 kids in Cabrini-Green in March 2001. Today it serves 1,000 students from 1st grade through college in Cabrini-Green, Altgeld Gardens, Austin and Englewood. We literally and figuratively take our kids by the hand and walk with them, meeting all their educational, physical and emotional needs so that as adults they can walk successfully on their own and realize their full potential.

All of our students have been recommended to us by their Chicago Public Schools principals because they are not meeting reading standards, making them eight times more likely to drop out of school.

However with the help of Comcast and many others we are seeing great results. By The Hand was able to report many outstanding academic achievements from the 2013-2014 school year including:

- 87% of students passed math and reading.
- 45% of students achieved all As, Bs and Cs.
- 182 of students are on the honor roll.
- 100% of seniors graduated and 89% enrolled in college this fall.
- 2 Bill Gates Millennium Scholars who are both pursuing Science careers.

Partnering with Comcast

Comcast has been a great partner to us over the last six years.

- Comcast sponsored the 2008 By The Hand Club For Kids Spring Benefit.
- In the fall of 2008, Comcast awarded By The Hand a $40,000 grant over two years for our education and literacy programs.
- By The Hand began using Comcast as our internet provider and also began providing free internet service to one of our sites, Altgeld Gardens.

- In April 2009, 50 Comcast employees served at our Englewood site for the Comcast Cares Day. They cleaned, painted, repaired old lights and landscaped our yard.
- In 2011, By The Hand was awarded an $30,000 grant to help us upgrade and provide new computers for our students. This enabled many students to write papers and do research online thus improving their grades.
- Comcast gave us the opportunity to appear on their Newsmakers Program to grow awareness of By The Hand.
- Comcast partnered with us to provide some of our families with affordable internet at home through Internet Essentials.
- In 2013, By The Hand was awarded a grant of $30,000 to help us enhance our technology efforts allowing us to roll out a new blended learning program incorporating computer reading software to help individualize learning for our children. Comcast helped us pilot this program this past year and already we have seen on average our kids grow in reading by 1.2 grade levels.

We are so thankful for the ongoing, loyal support of Comcast over the years. They have kept their financial and volunteer commitments to us which has enabled us to change the lives of many children in Chicago. We look forward to growing our partnership with Comcast in the coming years.

Sincerely,

Donnita Travis
Founder and Executive Director