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Lycoming County United Way

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Mobilizing Resources • Improving Lives

• Established 1922 •

Living • Caring • Uniting • Working Together

August 20, 2014

I am writing in support of the proposed transaction between Comcast and Time Warner Cable. Comcast has been a tireless supporter of the Lycoming County United Way (LCUW) in Pennsylvania and role model for good corporate stewardship.

I serve as Executive Director of the LCUW and I am proud of our community's work to support over 30 local programs and organizations, mostly focused on children. We originally got started nearly one hundred years ago, in 1922.

Our volunteers and staff serve on the front line of human services needs in our rural County and we are grateful to have a partner in Comcast.

The company's most innovative contribution to Lycoming families is Internet Essentials, a program that makes it easier for low-income families with children to access the Internet.

It goes without saying that digital literacy is a key skill for children at almost every grade level. But kids can only spend so much time in the computer lab at school. Unless those skills are reinforced at home, they risk falling behind their peers.

In order to strengthen digital literacy - which, by the way, reinforces traditional literacy - Comcast provides the option for families whose children qualify for the school lunch program to have Internet for less than \$10 per month. The program also includes options for subsidized computers.

Across the state of Pennsylvania, more than 14,000 families have had the opportunity to get their kids online as a direct result of Internet Essentials. That is a tremendous impact. The number will continue to grow here, and will certainly grow nationally if Comcast can bring this program to new cities by joining with Time Warner.

Comcast has supported the United Way directly, too. During a recent fundraising campaign, the company opened its doors to the United Way. More than 70 percent of local Comcast employees contributed - an impressive mark that demonstrates how much the company fosters a culture of giving and community involvement.

Comcast is a good corporate partner and a responsible member of our community. The transaction with Time Warner Cable will be good news for all the people in Lycoming County who call Comcast and its employees our neighbors, and to new customers and community partners alike in the company's expanded footprint.

Scott Lowery

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**GIVE. ADVOCATE. VOLUNTEER.**

Please remember Lycoming County United Way in your estate plans.