

# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

July 23, 2012

Julius Genachowski  
Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street SW  
Washington, DC 20554

WCD  
25% low  
Income  
9/12

Dear Chariman:

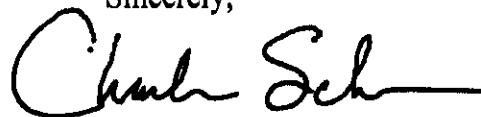
I am pleased to write in support of the application submitted by Xchange Telecom Corporation to the Federal Communications Commission's *Broadband Adoption Lifeline Pilot Program*.

Central Brooklyn is a diverse and vibrant group of neighborhoods. Sadly, though, there are parts of this community that sorely lag the country in terms of Broadband subscribership. These neighborhoods, not coincidentally, are some of the poorest in Brooklyn and, in fact, in the City of New York. The tie between low income and lack of subscribership is well known, but until recently, not much has been done to help bridge this digital divide.

Xchange Telecom Corporation has partnered with the City University of New York, Baruch College School of Public Affairs, and Older Adults Technology (OATS) in order to run a pilot in Brooklyn, New York to test the best method for the Commission to roll out subsidies to low income individuals. More specifically, Xchange's pilot will test three different levels of discounts, over three types of broadband technologies with three tiers of speeds. It will also test whether digital literacy training increases adoption and persistence. This test pilot will provide the FCC with unique data, and I applaud Xchange and its partners for their foresight. I sincerely hope the application meets with your approval.

Thank you for your consideration. For additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me or my Grants Director, Grant Kerr, in my Washington office at 202-224-6542.

Sincerely,



Charles E. Schumer  
United States Senator

8 AUG 2012 PCUD

