

Congress of the United States  
Washington, DC 20510

April 28, 2020

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Mr. Ajit Pai  
Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Chairman Pai:

We write in support of Thundermist Health Center's (Thundermist) application for funding under the Federal Communications Commission's COVID-19 Telehealth Program.

Since 1969, Thundermist has provided community-based medical, dental, behavioral health, and social services for Rhode Island's medically underserved and uninsured residents. The health center is a Level 3 National Committee for Quality Assurance Recognized Patient Centered Home and is an important part of Rhode Island's social safety net. In 2018, Thundermist provided services to more than 48,000 patients at three clinical sites in Woonsocket, West Warwick, and South Kingstown.

Funding would allow Thundermist to adapt to the new reality of the COVID-19 pandemic by providing medical, dental, and behavioral health care through telephone or telemedicine intervention whenever clinically appropriate. The initiative would also enable Thundermist to deliver necessary on-site care in a clean facility by implementing policies addressing the number of patients and staff members on-site during care and prohibiting patients exhibiting COVID-like symptoms from entering any facility. Providing high quality health care for low-income, vulnerable populations in an outpatient setting is critical to help reduce the burdens placed on our hospitals during this crisis.

We support Thundermist's proposal and its continued efforts to enhance its response to the COVID-19 pandemic, and we ask that you thoroughly consider this application within all applicable rules and regulations. If we can be of assistance to you in this matter, please do not hesitate to contact our offices. Thank you.


Sincerely,



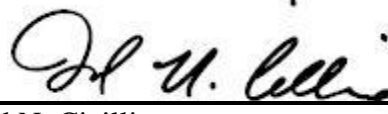
Jack Reed  
United States Senator



Sheldon Whitehouse  
United States Senator



James R. Langevin  
Member of Congress



David N. Cicilline  
Member of Congress