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Jersey Community Hospital

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June 27, 2012

To Whom It May Concern:

On behalf of Jersey Community Hospital, I wish to express our full support for GTI's Gigabit Communities Challenge Grant application. I have been briefed on the project and believe the expansion of a high speed fiber optic network across Jersey County is critical to the hospital's future and our ability to fulfill our healthcare mission. An expanded fiber optic network would greatly enhance our ability to:

- provide healthcare and follow-up services to Jersey County and Calhoun County families and senior citizens with limited means of transportation;
- distribute vital health maintenance information to "at risk" segments of the surrounding population;
- work with the local school district on healthy diet and exercise programs for K-12 students;
- access the latest medical technologies and physician services from larger hospital systems and doctor networks in the St. Louis Metropolitan Area; and, most importantly,
- *meet new federal mandates on digital medical records.

On behalf of those receiving medical care at JCH, we applaud GTI's continued commitment to establishing a fiber optic network in Jersey County. Without their investment, it would be very difficult for Jersey Community Hospital to continue providing effective and cost-efficient medical care to individuals and families throughout this region.

If you have any questions regarding our support for the grant application or Jersey Community Hospital, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Larry Bear', written over a horizontal line.

Larry Bear
Administrator