



Athol Hospital

Member of the Heywood Healthcare Family

July 14, 2016

Mr. Chip Bull
Chair, Petersham Broadband Committee
Town of Petersham
3 South Main Street
Petersham, MA 01366

Dear Mr. Bull and Petersham Broadband Committee,

I am writing on behalf of Heywood Healthcare/Quabbin Retreat of Petersham to provide our support for your efforts in securing much-needed stable broadband service in Petersham.

As a long-time hospital and healthcare provider for the region and now with a critical new project underway in Petersham specifically, we at Heywood Healthcare fully understand and see on a daily basis the need for stable, successful broadband service in our rural areas and in communities. This need is only growing stronger in communities such as Petersham where there is no cable service available and limited DSL service.

We strongly believe broadband service is a critical component in our ability to provide top quality care delivery, in our communications, and in our overall efforts to meet the healthcare needs of the community and the greater region. From patient-doctor-administration communications, to emergency services, to research, to general business — the list of uses and needs for successful broadband service is endless for a healthcare setting.

We fully support Petersham's efforts to obtain community wide broadband build-out and thank all the groups and state agencies who are working towards that goal for Petersham and for central and western Massachusetts. Please share this letter with those who will find it helpful as they review your project and your request for support.

Sincerely,

Rebecca Bialecki, BSN, PhD
Vice President, Community Health / Chief Agent of Change
Heywood Healthcare