



Office for People With Developmental Disabilities

KATHY HOCHUL
Governor

KERRI E. NEIFELD
Commissioner

ROGER BEARDEN, J.D.
Executive Deputy Commissioner

VIA USPS CERTIFIED MAIL & EMAIL

May 26, 2022

Ms. Angela Hope-Weusi, Executive Director
Long Life Information and Referral Network, Inc.



Mr. Michael Hooper, Board President



Dear Ms. Hope-Weusi and Mr. Hooper:

The purpose of this letter is to formally notify you that Long Life Information and Referral Network, Inc. was placed on Early Alert effective May 20, 2022, due to significant compliance issues identified by the Bureau of Fiscal Reporting and Data Analysis.

To ensure that individuals with developmental disabilities in New York State receive appropriate services and protections, the Office for People With Developmental Disabilities (OPWDD) has established an internal Early Alert Committee. The purpose of the Early Alert process is to monitor the performance of a provider that has been unable to sustain compliance with applicable laws and regulations and/or has significant fiscal issues that may affect the health and safety of individuals receiving services. OPWDD has placed your agency on Early Alert due to the following concerns:

Long Life Information and Referral Network, Inc. has not submitted the required Consolidated Fiscal Report (CFR), signed certification pages, and the accompanying Financial Statements, for the CFR period of July 1, 2019 – June 30, 2020. The July 1, 2019 – June 30, 2020 CFR submittal deadline was September 10, 2021. As a result of the CFR submittal delinquency, a two percent penalty was imposed on your agency's OPWDD Medicaid revenue effective September 10, 2021, which was replaced with a 50 percent penalty on your agency's OPWDD HCBS Waiver Service revenue effective May 1, 2022. The imposition of the 50 percent penalty was detailed in the November 17, 2021, correspondence to your agency.

Long Life Information and Referral Services, Inc. has also not submitted the required Consolidated Fiscal Report (CFR), signed certification pages, and the accompanying Financial Statements, for the CFR period of July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021. The July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021 CFR submittal deadline was December 1, 2021. As a result of the CFR submittal delinquency, a two percent penalty was imposed on your agency's OPWDD Medicaid revenue effective December 1, 2021, which will be replaced with a 50 percent penalty on your agency's OPWDD HCBS Waiver

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Service revenue effective August 1, 2022. The imposition of the 50 percent penalty was detailed in the February 14, 2022, correspondence to your agency.

The imposition of the 50 percent penalty will significantly compromise your agency's ability to provide services to the individuals that you support.

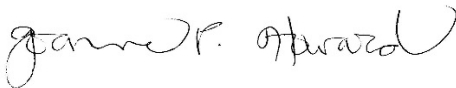
While on Early Alert, OPWDD will monitor the Agency's progress and will determine whether your agency has the ability to remedy the deficient practices and sustain compliance going forward. While in Early Alert status, OPWDD will not consider any Agency requests for expansion of services and may suspend any expansion that is in process.

Representatives from OPWDD will meet with Agency leadership and the Board of Directors to further discuss the Early Alert process and OPWDD's expectations. This meeting will be scheduled at a time that is convenient for the agency and the Board. If you have any questions prior to the meeting, please contact Joanne P. Howard, Director, Fiscal Reporting at: Joanne.Howard@opwdd.ny.gov or (518) 402-4330.

Sincerely,



Tammy Devine, Acting Deputy Commissioner
Division of Quality Improvement



Joanne P. Howard, Director
Fiscal Reporting

cc: Board of Directors
Kerri Neifeld, Commissioner
Roger Bearden, Executive Deputy Commissioner
Brian O'Donnell, Statewide Director, DQI, Bureau of Program Certification
Barbara Van Vechten, Statewide Director, Incident Management and Continuous Quality Improvement Units
Karisa Capone, Director, Incident Management Unit
Richard Cicero, Director of Internal Controls
Abiba Kindo, Deputy Commissioner, Service Access, Program Implementation and Provider Relations
Deborah Ellis, Statewide Operations Director
Ann Marie Peterson, Associate Deputy Director, Service Access, Program Implementation and Stakeholder Support
Eileen Hayes, General Counsel
Joanne Howard, Director, Fiscal Reporting
Earl Jefferson, Director, Central Operations
Delia Tucker, Director, Region 4
Josh Olsen, Deputy Counsel, Counsel's Office