



December 31, 2013

**Amended Letter**

Mr. Henry Eromesele  
IYAHQ Social Services, Inc.  
71 North Franklin Street, Suite 211  
Hempstead, NY 11550

Mr. Eni Ekhamenor, PRESIDENT  
[REDACTED]

Dear Mr. Eromesele and Mr. Ekhamenor:

In order to ensure that New York State (NYS) citizens with developmental disabilities receive appropriate services and protections, the Office for People With Developmental Disabilities (OPWDD) has established an internal Early Alert Committee. The committee is made up of OPWDD senior leadership and managers. 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.

The purpose of this letter is to notify you that IYAHQ Social Services, Inc. (IYAHQ) is being placed on Early Alert due to:

1. Substantial regulatory non-compliance including serious and systemic issues in Medicaid Service Coordination, and incident management. A 9/25/13 survey was conducted by the Division of Quality Improvement (DQI) at IYAHQ's Medicaid Service Coordination (MSC) program with deficiencies in the areas of individual protection, service delivery, service coordination follow-up, and incident management. These deficiencies resulted in the issuance of a 45-day letter. The two plans of corrective action (POCA) submitted by the agency were found to be unacceptable in addressing the deficiencies. To date, an acceptable POCA has not been received by DQI. Additionally, during a review conducted by OPWDD in August 2013, IYAHQ's family support programs, In-home Respite and non-Medicaid Service Coordination, were assessed and found to be deficient.
2. Concern for Agency viability and continuum of services IYAHQ can provide.
  - a. Office of Audit Services (OAS) has confirmed that IYAHQ's Work Compensation Policy H 2024 615-3 was cancelled, effective December 16, 2013.
  - b. OAS has confirmed that IYAHQ's cash position continues to deteriorate. OAS has noted that loans made to the agency and payables for the non-remittance of payroll taxes and to vendors vital to the health and safety of our population continue to grow. In addition, IYAHQ's loan receivable of \$22,000 from its' Executive Director continues to be carried year-to-year without realization.
  - c. IYAHQ has a current asset to liabilities ratio that is below a 1:1 ratio, which is less than ideal. This ratio coupled with negative net assets and negative working capital raises fiscal viability concerns.

Staff from DQI will work with IYAHQ Social Services, Inc to address the regulatory compliance issues so that you may arrive at a solution that will be in the best interests of the individuals you serve and their families. During this time, DQI will make a determination regarding whether the Agency has the ability to remedy the deficient practices and sustain compliance throughout its' programs. If the agency can

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demonstrate the ability to sustain compliance, we will remove it from Early Alert and you will be notified accordingly.

While IYAHQ Social Services, Inc. is on Early Alert, OPWDD will not consider any requests for expansion of services and may suspend any expansion that is in process.

We will be contacting the Agency shortly to come to a mutually agreed upon date where representatives from DQI, OPWDD regional office staff, Executive Staff from IYAHQ Social Services, Inc, and its Board of Directors can meet in the next few weeks. In preparation for that meeting, we are requesting that a financial plan be submitted by January 15, 2014, that benchmarks and measures progress toward the following:

- a. Positive net assets balance,
- b. a positive working capital position,
- c. a current ratio greater than 1:1,
- d. a current fiscal year budget to actual with variances through November 2013,
- e. remittance of all back payroll taxes and
- f. a monthly statement of projected cash flow, to OPWDD Office of Audit Services, **covering an 18 month period.**

Please send the financial plan and projections to Robert Borchers at 25 Beaver Street, New York, NY 10004. At that time we will also identify what, if any, additional information we will need from you. If you have any questions, please contact Brian O'Donnell, DQI Acting Regional Director at (646) 766-3467.

Sincerely,

Tamika R. Black, Ph.D.  
Deputy Director  
Division of Quality Improvement

cc: Laurie Kelley, Acting Commissioner  
Megan O'Connor, Deputy Commissioner, DQI  
Helene DeSanto, Acting Executive Deputy Commissioner  
John Gleason- Service Delivery  
Sally Berry - Regional Offices  
Brian O'Donnell, Acting Regional Director - DQI  
Cheryl A. Mugno, Counsel's Office  
Jonathan Pease, Area Director - DQI  
Board of Directors