



Office for People With Developmental Disabilities

ANDREW M. CUOMO
Governor

KERRY A. DELANEY
Acting Commissioner

VIA USPS CERTIFIED REGULAR MAIL & EMAIL

December 6, 2018

Shaneika Ford, Acting Executive Director
The Humanitarian Organization For
Multicultural Experiences, Inc.
831 James Street
Syracuse, NY 13203

Board of Directors
The Humanitarian Organization For
Multicultural Experience, Inc.

Dear Ms. Ford and Members of the Board:

The purpose of this letter is to notify you that The Humanitarian Organization For Multicultural Experiences (HOME, Inc.) was placed on Early Alert effective November 30, 2018, due to a number of significant concerns.

In order 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 that 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:

- Failure to report, investigate or provide needed individual protections in situations that warrant reporting of reportable incidents.
- Inadequate fiscal record-keeping resulting in the inability to measure the agency's fiscal condition.
- Internal controls that, by their inadequacy, fail to safeguard assets.
- Lack of Board of Director awareness and oversight of fiscal viability.

While on Early Alert, OPWDD will monitor your agency's progress and make a determination regarding whether your agency has the ability to remedy the deficient practices and sustain compliance. While your agency is on Early Alert, however, OPWDD will not consider any requests

Executive Office

44 Holland Avenue, Albany, New York 12229-0001 | 866-946-9733 | www.opwdd.ny.gov

for expansion of services and may suspend any expansion that is in process.

Representatives from OPWDD will meet with your agency to discuss the Early Alert process further and OPWDD's expectations. The meeting will be scheduled at a time that is convenient for you and the Board. If you have any questions, please contact Richard Cicero, Director, Internal Controls and Audit Services at (518) 402-4368

Sincerely,



Tammy Devine
Deputy Director, Division of Quality Improvement



Richard Cicero,
Director, Internal Controls and Audit Services

cc: Board of Directors
Roger Bearden, Acting Executive Deputy Commissioner
Tamika Black, Deputy Commissioner, Division of Quality Improvement
Tammy Devine, Deputy Director, Division of Quality Improvement
Brian O'Donnell, Regional Director, DQI, Bureau of Program Certification
Karisa Capone, Director, Incident Management Unit
Abiba Kindo, Deputy Commissioner, Service Delivery - Regional Offices
Leslie Fuld, Associate Deputy Commissioner, Service Delivery - Regional Offices
Willow Baer, Acting General Counsel
Joanne Howard, Director, Fiscal Reporting and Data Analysis
Martha Dalton, Associate Commissioner, Division of Enterprise Solutions
Earl Jefferson, Director, Central Operations
AnnMarie Peterson, Acting Director, Region 2
Josh Olsen, Senior Attorney, Counsel's Office