



Office for People With Developmental Disabilities

ANDREW M. CUOMO
Governor

THEODORE KASTNER, MD, MS
Acting Commissioner

VIA USPS CERTIFIED REGULAR MAIL & EMAIL

October 28, 2019

Regina Taylor-Tuck, Executive Director
Community Options New York, Inc.
350 5th Avenue
New York, NY 10118

Robert Stack, President, Board of Directors

Dear Ms. Taylor-Tuck and Mr. Stack:

The purpose of this letter is to notify you that Community Options New York, Inc. was placed on Early Alert effective October 18, 2019, 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:

- Systemic and pervasive compliance concerns in the areas of:
 - Nursing and Healthcare Oversight and Monitoring
 - Behavioral Supports
 - Fire Safety
 - Incident Management

Executive Office

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

While on Early Alert, OPWDD will monitor your agency's progress and will determine 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 for expansion of services. OPWDD is allowing the agency to continue with expansion of projects that have already been approved (see attached list).

Representatives from OPWDD will meet with your agency to discuss the Early Alert process further and OPWDD's expectations on November 7th, 2019 at 3 PM at 25 Beaver Street, New York, NY. The meeting will be scheduled at a time that is convenient for you and the Board. If you have any questions, please contact Brian O'Donnell, Statewide Director, Bureau of Program Certification at (518) 474-3625.

Sincerely,



Leslie Fuld
Deputy Commissioner, Division of Quality Improvement

cc: Board of Directors
Theodore Kastner, Commissioner
Roger Bearden, Executive Deputy Commissioner
Tammy Devine, Deputy Director, Division of Quality Improvement
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 Delivery - Regional Offices
Jacquelyn Leigh Best, Regional Offices – Statewide Operations Director
Willow Baer, General Counsel
Joanne Howard, Director, Fiscal Reporting and Data Analysis
Martha Dalton, Associate Commissioner, Division of Enterprise Solutions
Earl Jefferson, Director, Central Operations
Delia Tucker, Deputy Director, Region 4
Ann Marie Peterson, Director, Region 2
Josh Olsen, Deputy Counsel, Counsel's Office

List of Approved Expansion Projects by Region:

Region 4:

DV Plan #	Project Type	Projected Opening	Opportunities
023501691	AO Project	12/31/2020	4
026501724	AO Project	9/1/2020	4
023501867	Relocation Project	12/31/2020	4

Region 2:

DV Plan #	Project Type	Projected Opening	Opportunities
026103240	AO Project	7/1/2020	4
026104681	AO Project	1/1/2020	4
TBD	RFS 459 Specialized Housing Need	TBD	4