



Office for People With Developmental Disabilities

KATHY HOCHUL
Governor

KERRI E. NEIFELD
Commissioner

VIA USPS CERTIFIED MAIL & EMAIL

May 25, 2023

Corrine Hammons, Executive Director
Little Flower Children and Family Services of New York
2450 North Wading River Road
Wading River, NY 11792

Howard Nolan, Board President
[REDACTED]

RE: Early Alert Status

Dear Ms. Hammons and Mr. Nolan:

The purpose of this letter is to formally notify you that Little Flower Children and Family Services of New York was placed on Early Alert effective May 19, 2023, due to significant compliance issues identified by the Division of Quality Improvement (DQI).

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 not achieved and maintained 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 serious and systemic deficiencies in the areas of health care supports and medication requirements. Recently, the agency was issued two 45-Day Statements of Deficiency (SOD) for failure to meet nursing service provision and oversight requirements at two of the agency's residential sites. In addition, during a subsequent monitoring visit to one of these residences, it was determined that the agency failed to correct the health care deficiencies issued in the initial 45-Day SOD.

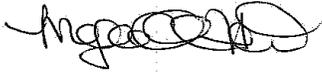
While on Early Alert, OPWDD will monitor the Agency's progress in remediating areas on non-compliance and will determine when the agency has demonstrated that compliance has been systemically achieved and has effective systems in place to maintain on-going compliance. While in Early Alert status, OPWDD will not consider any Agency requests for expansion of services and may suspend any expansion that is in process.

Executive Office

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

Representatives from OPWDD will meet with Agency leadership and the Board of Directors to further discuss concerns, 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 Carmela Fiore, BPC Area Director, at: carmela.r.fiore@opwdd.ny.gov, and 646-766-3467.

Sincerely,



Megan O'Connor-Hebert
Deputy Commissioner
Division of Quality Improvement

cc: Board of Directors
Kerri E. Neifeld, Commissioner, OPWDD
Abiba Kindo, Deputy Commissioner, Service Delivery
AnnMarie Peterson, Associate Commissioner, Service Delivery
Mary Jane Vogel, Deputy Director, Bureau of Program Certification, and Incident Management
Brian O'Donnell, Statewide Director, Bureau of Program Certification
Deborah Ellis, Director, Statewide Operations
Wilfrid Chou, Regional Director, Region 5
Delia Tucker, Regional Director, Region 4
Chad Mitchell, Regional Director, Bureau of Program Certification
Chris Darcey, Regional Director, Bureau of Program Certification
Eileen Haynes, General Counsel, OPWDD
Joshua Olsen, Deputy General Counsel, OPWDD
Ellie Smith, Director, Continuous Quality Improvement
Michele Schwartz, Area Director, Continuous Quality Improvement
Robert Borchers, Deputy Director, Office of Audit Services
Joanne Howard, Director, Fiscal Reporting