

Office for People With Developmental Disabilities

KATHY HOCHUL Governor

KERRI E.NEIFELD Commissioner ROGER BEARDEN, J.D. Executive Deputy Commissioner

## VIA USPS CERTIFED MAIL & EMAIL

April 29, 2022

Elsie Saint-Louis Accilien, Executive Director

Mr. Rulx Rosefort, Board President

Dear Ms. Accilien and Mr. Rosefort:

The purpose of this letter is to formally notify you that The Haitian Americans United for Progress, Inc. was placed on Early Alert effective April 29, 2022, due to a significant compliance issue 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:

The Haitian Americans United for Progress, Inc. did not submit the required Consolidated Fiscal Report (CFR), and the accompanying Financial Statements, for the CFR period of July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021, by the CFR submittal deadline of 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 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,

Tany Devin

Tammy Devine, Acting Deputy Commissioner

**Division of Quality Improvement** 

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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 Earl Jefferson, Director, Central Operations Delia Tucker, Director, Region 4 Josh Olsen, Deputy Counsel, Counsel's Office