

Rebuilding lives together

PO Box 480149 Niles, IL 60714

<<Name 1>> <<Name 2>> <<Address 1>> <<Address 2>> <<City>>, <<State>> <<Zip>>





NOTICE OF <</Variable Header>>

Dear <<<Name 1>> <<<Name 2>>:

The Center for Urban Community Services ("CUCS") is writing to notify you of a data security incident that may affect the privacy of some of your information. We take this incident very seriously and are providing details of the incident and the resources available to you to help protect your information from possible misuse, should you feel it is appropriate to do so.

What Happened? On or around September 9, 2023, CUCS was alerted to suspicious activity related to its network environment. CUCS immediately launched an investigation into this issue and worked with subject matter specialists to determine the full nature and scope of the event.

This investigation determined that an unknown individual gained unauthorized access to certain CUCS systems from September 4, 2023, to September 10, 2023. Furthermore, the investigation revealed that certain personally identifiable data was acquired by the unknown actor within that time frame. We then proceeded to conduct a thorough and time-intensive review of the impacted information to ensure we identified individuals with information potentially at risk. As a result of the review, on or about June 21, 2024, we determined that your personal information was potentially impacted.

What Information Was Involved? The type of information that was acquired varies by individual and could include one or more of the following: your name, and <<Variable Data 3 (Impacted Data elements)>>.

What We Are Doing. CUCS takes the confidentiality, privacy, and security of information in its care seriously. Upon discovery, CUCS secured its systems and launched an investigation with third party forensic specialists to determine the nature and scope of the potentially impacted data.

CUCS notified federal law enforcement and is reporting this incident to relevant state and federal regulators. CUCS is also providing twenty-four (24) months of complimentary credit monitoring services to you through IDX. Please review the instructions contained in the attached *Steps You Can Take to Help Protect Your Personal Information* for additional information on these services.

What You Can Do. While CUCS has no evidence to indicate identity theft or fraud has occurred or is likely to occur as a result of this incident, CUCS encourages you to review the attached *Steps You Can Take to Help Protect Your Personal Information*.

For More Information. We understand you may have questions or concerns about the incident that are not addressed in this letter. If you have additional questions, or need assistance, please call 1-888-461-3353 Monday through Friday from 9:00 am to 9:00 pm Eastern Time, excluding holidays. You may also write to CUCS at 198 East 121st Street, New York, NY 10035.

We regret that this has happened and any concern or inconvenience this may have caused you.

Sincerely,

Center for Urban Community Services

STEPS YOU CAN TAKE TO HELP PROTECT YOUR PERSONAL INFORMATION

Enroll in Credit Monitoring

1. Website and Enrollment. Scan the QR image or go to <u>https://app.idx.us/account-creation/protect</u> and follow the instructions for enrollment using your Enrollment Code provided at the top of the letter. Please note the deadline to enroll is October 3, 2024.

2. Activate the credit monitoring provided as part of your IDX identity protection membership. The monitoring included in the membership must be activated to be effective. Note: You must have established credit and access to a computer and the internet to use this service. If you need assistance, IDX will be able to assist you.

3. Telephone. Contact IDX at 1-888-461-3353 to gain additional information about this event and speak with knowledgeable representatives about the appropriate steps to take to protect your credit identity.

4. Review your credit reports. We recommend that you remain vigilant by reviewing account statements and monitoring credit reports. Under federal law, you also are entitled every 12 months to one free copy of your credit report from each of the three major credit reporting companies. To obtain a free annual credit report, go to <u>www.annualcreditreport.com</u> or call 1-877-322-8228. You may wish to stagger your requests so that you receive a free report by one of the three credit bureaus every four months.

If you discover any suspicious items and have enrolled in IDX identity protection, notify them immediately by calling or by logging into the IDX website and filing a request for help.

If you file a request for help or report suspicious activity, you will be contacted by a member of our ID Care team who will help you determine the cause of the suspicious items. In the unlikely event that you fall victim to identity theft as a consequence of this incident, you will be assigned an ID Care Specialist who will work on your behalf to identify, stop and reverse the damage quickly.

Monitor Your Accounts

Under U.S. law, a consumer is entitled to one free credit report annually from each of the three major credit reporting bureaus, Equifax, Experian, and TransUnion. To order your free credit report, visit <u>www.annualcreditreport.com</u> or call, toll-free, 1-877-322-8228. You may also directly contact the three major credit reporting bureaus listed below to request a free copy of your credit report.

Consumers have the right to place an initial or extended "fraud alert" on a credit file at no cost. An initial fraud alert is a 1-year alert that is placed on a consumer's credit file. Upon seeing a fraud alert display on a consumer's credit file, a business is required to take steps to verify the consumer's identity before extending new credit. If you are a victim of identity theft, you are entitled to an extended fraud alert, which is a fraud alert lasting seven years. Should you wish to place a fraud alert, please contact any one of the three major credit reporting bureaus listed below.

As an alternative to a fraud alert, consumers have the right to place a "credit freeze" on a credit report, which will prohibit a credit bureau from releasing information in the credit report without the consumer's express authorization. The credit freeze is designed to prevent credit, loans, and services from being approved in your name without your consent. However, you should be aware that using a credit freeze to take control over who gets access to the personal and financial information in your credit report may delay, interfere with, or prohibit the timely approval of any subsequent request or application you make regarding a new loan, credit, mortgage, or any other account involving the extension of credit. Pursuant to federal law, you cannot be charged to place or lift a credit freeze on your credit report. To request a security freeze, you will need to provide the following information:

- 1. Full name (including middle initial as well as Jr., Sr., II, III, etc.);
- 2. Social Security number;
- 3. Date of birth;
- 4. Addresses for the prior two to five years;
- 5. Proof of current address, such as a current utility bill or telephone bill;
- 6. A legible photocopy of a government-issued identification card (state driver's license or ID card, etc.); and

7. A copy of either the police report, investigative report, or complaint to a law enforcement agency concerning identity theft if you are a victim of identity theft.

Equifax	Experian	TransUnion
https://www.equifax.com/personal/credit- report-services/	https://www.experian.com/help/	https://www.transunion.com/credit- help
1-888-298-0045	1-888-397-3742	1-800-916-8800
Equifax Fraud Alert, P.O. Box 105069 Atlanta, GA 30348-5069	Experian Fraud Alert, P.O. Box 9554, Allen, TX 75013	TransUnion Fraud Alert, P.O. Box 2000, Chester, PA 19016
Equifax Credit Freeze, P.O. Box 105788 Atlanta, GA 30348-5788	Experian Credit Freeze, P.O. Box 9554, Allen, TX 75013	TransUnion Credit Freeze, P.O. Box 160, Woodlyn, PA 19094

Should you wish to place a credit freeze, please contact the three major credit reporting bureaus listed below:

Additional Information

You may further educate yourself regarding identity theft, fraud alerts, credit freezes, and the steps you can take to protect your personal information by contacting the consumer reporting bureaus, the Federal Trade Commission, or your state Attorney General. The Federal Trade Commission may be reached at: 600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20580; <u>www.identitytheft.gov</u>; 1-877-ID-THEFT (1-877-438-4338); and TTY: 1-866-653-4261. The Federal Trade Commission also encourages those who discover that their information has been misused to file a complaint with them. You can obtain further information on how to file such a complaint by way of the contact information listed above. You have the right to file a police report if you ever experience identity theft or fraud. Please note that in order to file a report with law enforcement for identity theft, you will likely need to provide some proof that you have been a victim. Instances of known or suspected identity theft should also be reported to law enforcement and your state Attorney General. This notice has not been delayed by law enforcement.

For District of Columbia residents, the District of Columbia Attorney General may be contacted at: 400 6th Street, NW, Washington, D.C. 20001; 202-727-3400; and <u>oag.dc.gov</u>.

For Maryland residents, the Maryland Attorney General may be contacted at: 200 St. Paul Place, 16th Floor, Baltimore, MD 21202; 1-410-576-6300 or 1-888-743-0023; and <u>https://www.marylandattorneygeneral.gov/</u>.

For New Mexico residents, consumers have rights pursuant to the Fair Credit Reporting Act, such as the right to be told if information in their credit file has been used against them, the right to know what is in their credit file, the right to ask for their credit score, and the right to dispute incomplete or inaccurate information. Further, pursuant to the Fair Credit Reporting Act, the consumer reporting bureaus must correct or delete inaccurate, incomplete, or unverifiable information; consumer reporting agencies may not report outdated negative information; access to consumers' files is limited; consumers must give consent for credit reports to be provided to employers; consumers may limit "prescreened" offers of credit and insurance based on information in their credit report; and consumers may seek damages from violators. Consumers may have additional rights under the Fair Credit Reporting Act not summarized here. Identity theft victims and active-duty military personnel have specific additional rights pursuant to the Fair Credit Reporting Act. We encourage consumers to review their rights pursuant to the Fair Credit Reporting Act by visiting www.consumerfinance.gov/f/201504 cfpb summary your-rights-under-fcra.pdf, or by writing Consumer Response Center, Room 130-A, Federal Trade Commission, 600 Pennsylvania Ave. N.W., Washington, D.C. 20580.

For New York residents, the New York Attorney General may be contacted at: Office of the Attorney General, The Capitol, Albany, NY 12224-0341; 1-800-771-7755; or <u>https://ag.ny.gov</u>.

For North Carolina residents, the North Carolina Attorney General may be contacted at: 9001 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-9001; 1-877-566-7226 or 1-919-716-6000; and <u>www.ncdoj.gov</u>.

For Rhode Island residents, the Rhode Island Attorney General may be reached at: 150 South Main Street, Providence, RI 02903; <u>www.riag.ri.gov</u>; and 1-401-274-4400. Under Rhode Island law, individuals have the right to obtain any police report filed in regard to this event. Fees may be required to be paid to the consumer reporting agencies. There are approximately 11 Rhode Island residents that may be impacted by this event.