

Blackstone Valley Community Health Care
c/o Cyberscout
PO Box 1286
Dearborn, MI 48120-9998



April 18, 2024

Subject: Notice of Data Security Incident

Dear [Redacted],

I am writing to inform you of a data security incident that may have involved your personal health information. At Blackstone Valley Community Health Care ("BVCHC"), we take the privacy and security of individuals' information very seriously. This is why we are informing you of the incident and providing you with steps you can take to protect your information.

What Happened? On November 11, 2023, BVCHC experienced a disruption in our computer network. We immediately initiated an investigation and engaged digital forensics experts to assist us with the process. The forensic investigation determined that certain BVCHC data may have been acquired without authorization during the incident. We conducted a thorough review of the affected data to identify any personal health information that may have been involved and worked diligently to validate the results and confirm addresses of the potentially impacted individuals. This process concluded on March 11, 2024, at which time we determined that your information may have been involved. Since that time, we have worked diligently to arrange for written notice of this event.

What Information Was Involved? The information may have included your name, date of birth, health insurance information, provider information, treatment and/or diagnosis information, lab or test results, and patient account and/or medical record number.

What We Are Doing. As soon as we discovered this incident, we took the steps described above. We also notified the FBI and will provide whatever cooperation may be necessary to hold the perpetrators accountable. We have also implemented measures to enhance network security and minimize the risk of a similar incident occurring in the future.

What You Can Do. You can follow the recommendations on the following page to help protect your information.

For More Information. Further information about how to protect your information appears on the following page. If you have questions or need assistance, representatives are available for 90 days from the date of this letter. Please call 1-833-542-2696, Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Eastern Time, excluding holidays.

We take your trust in us and this matter very seriously. Please accept our sincere apologies for any worry or inconvenience this may cause.

Sincerely,

Sandra Pardus, CEO
Blackstone Valley Community Health Care
39 East Avenue
Pawtucket, Rhode Island 02860

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Steps You Can Take to Protect Your Personal Information

Review Your Account Statements and Notify Law Enforcement of Suspicious Activity: As a precautionary measure, we recommend that you remain vigilant by reviewing your account statements and credit reports closely. If you detect any suspicious activity on an account, you should promptly notify the financial institution or company with which the account is maintained. You also should promptly report any fraudulent activity or any suspected incidence of identity theft to proper law enforcement authorities, your state attorney general, and/or the Federal Trade Commission (FTC).

Copy of Credit Report: You may obtain a free copy of your credit report from each of the three major credit reporting agencies once every 12 months by visiting <http://www.annualcreditreport.com/>, calling toll-free 1-877-322-8228, or by completing an Annual Credit Report Request Form and mailing it to Annual Credit Report Request Service, P.O. Box 105281, Atlanta, GA 30348. You also can contact one of the following three national credit reporting agencies:

Equifax
P.O. Box 105851
Atlanta, GA 30348
1-800-525-6285
www.equifax.com

Experian
P.O. Box 9532
Allen, TX 75013
1-888-397-3742
www.experian.com

TransUnion
P.O. Box 2000
Chester, PA 19016
1-800-916-8800
www.transunion.com

Fraud Alert: You may want to consider placing a fraud alert on your credit report. An initial fraud alert is free and will stay on your credit file for at least one year. The alert informs creditors of possible fraudulent activity within your report and requests that the creditor contact you prior to establishing any accounts in your name. To place a fraud alert on your credit report, contact any of the three credit reporting agencies identified above. Additional information is available at <http://www.annualcreditreport.com>.

Security Freeze: You have the right to put a security freeze on your credit file for up to one year at no cost. This will prevent new credit from being opened in your name without the use of a PIN number that is issued to you when you initiate the freeze. A security freeze is designed to prevent potential creditors from accessing your credit report without your consent. As a result, using a security freeze may interfere with or delay your ability to obtain credit. You must separately place a security freeze on your credit file with each credit reporting agency. In order to place a security freeze, you may be required to provide the consumer reporting agency with information that identifies you including your full name, Social Security number, date of birth, current and previous addresses, a copy of your state-issued identification card, and a recent utility bill, bank statement or insurance statement.

Additional Free Resources: You can obtain information from the consumer reporting agencies, the FTC, or from your respective state Attorney General about fraud alerts, security freezes, and steps you can take toward preventing identity theft. You may report suspected identity theft to local law enforcement, including to the FTC or to the Attorney General in your state.

Federal Trade Commission
600 Pennsylvania Ave, NW
Washington, DC 20580
consumer.ftc.gov, and
www.ftc.gov/idtheft
1-877-438-4338

Maryland Attorney General
200 St. Paul Place
Baltimore, MD 21202
marylandattorneygeneral.gov
1-888-743-0023

New York Attorney General
Bureau of Internet and Technology
Resources
28 Liberty Street
New York, NY 10005
1-212-416-8433

**North Carolina Attorney
General**
9001 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699
ncdoj.gov
1-877-566-7226

Rhode Island Attorney General
150 South Main Street
Providence, RI 02903
<http://www.riag.ri.gov>
1-401-274-4400

**Washington D.C. Attorney
General**
441 4th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20001
oag.dc.gov
1-202-727-3400

You also have certain rights under the Fair Credit Reporting Act (FCRA): These rights include to know what is in your file; to dispute incomplete or inaccurate information; to have consumer reporting agencies correct or delete inaccurate, incomplete, or unverifiable information; as well as other rights. For more information about the FCRA, and your rights pursuant to the FCRA, please visit:
https://www.ftc.gov/system/files/documents/statutes/fair-credit-reporting-act/545a_fair-credit-reporting-act-0918.pdf.