



## Notice of Data Security Incident

**Washington, DC. – December 20, 2024** – Community Connections is providing notice of a recent data security incident that may have resulted in the unauthorized access to certain individuals’ personal information. While Community Connections’ investigation of this incident remains ongoing, this notice is intended to share information available to date, steps Community Connections is taking in response to the incident, in addition to proactive steps individuals can take to protect their data.

**What Happened?** On October 21, 2024, Community Connections detected suspicious activity on its computer systems. Upon discovery of this incident, Community Connections immediately secured its systems and promptly engaged a specialized third-party cybersecurity firm to conduct a comprehensive investigation to determine the nature and scope of the incident. The forensic investigation is still ongoing and will take time to complete. Community Connections is also in the process of identifying impacted individuals as well as the type of information that may have been exposed as a result of the incident. Community Connections plans to send written notice to each impacted individual via U.S. mail along with resources to protect their personal information.

**What Are We Doing?** Data privacy and security is among Community Connections’ highest priorities, and Community Connections is committed to doing everything it can to protect the privacy and security of the personal information in its care. Since the discovery of the incident, Community Connections moved quickly to investigate, respond, and confirm the security of its systems. In addition, Community Connections changed passwords, implemented new technical safeguards, is in the process of implementing personnel trainings, is in the process of reviewing and updating policies and procedures, and will take on other actions as needed.

**What Can You Do to Protect Your Data?** Meanwhile, if individuals are concerned that their information may have been exposed as a result of this incident, there are a variety of steps you can take to protect your data. Steps an individual can take to protect against identity theft and fraud include: carefully reviewing your financial statements for unauthorized activity, monitoring your credit reports, and/or placing a fraud alert or credit freeze on your credit reports by contacting the three credit reporting agencies (Equifax, Experian, and TransUnion). You can obtain more information from the U.S. Federal Trade Commission about identity theft prevention, fraud alerts and freezing your credit at [www.ftc.gov](http://www.ftc.gov).

### **Other Important Information**

Once again, Community Connections’ investigation of the incident remains ongoing. However, should you have any questions or concerns in the meanwhile, please call 1-833-799-4322 Monday through Friday, during the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 9:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time (excluding U.S. national holidays).

Community Connections remains dedicated to ensuring the privacy and security of all information in our control and sincerely apologizes for any inconvenience.

Sincerely,

**Community Connections**

### **ADDITIONAL RESOURCES TO HELP PROTECT YOUR INFORMATION**

#### **Monitor Your Accounts**

We recommend that you remain vigilant for incidents of fraud or identity theft by regularly reviewing your credit reports and financial accounts for any suspicious activity. You should contact the reporting agency using the phone number on the credit report if you find any inaccuracies with your information or if you do not recognize any of the account activity.

You may obtain a free copy of your credit report by visiting [www.annualcreditreport.com](http://www.annualcreditreport.com), calling toll-free at 1-877-322-8228, or by mailing a completed Annual Credit Report Request Form (available at [www.annualcreditreport.com](http://www.annualcreditreport.com)) to Annual Credit Report Request Service, P.O. Box 105281, Atlanta, GA, 30348-5281. You may also purchase a copy of your credit report for a fee by contacting one or more of the three national credit reporting agencies.

You have rights under the federal Fair Credit Reporting Act (FCRA). The FCRA governs the collection and use of information about you that is reported by consumer reporting agencies. You can obtain additional information about your rights under the FCRA by visiting <https://www.ftc.gov/legal-library/browse/statutes/fair-credit-reporting-act>.

### **Credit Freeze**

You have the right to add, temporarily lift and remove a credit freeze, also known as a security freeze, on your credit report at no cost. A credit freeze prevents all third parties, such as credit lenders or other companies, whose use is not exempt under law, from accessing your credit file without your consent. If you have a freeze, you must remove or temporarily lift it to apply for credit. Spouses can request freezes for each other as long as they pass authentication. You can also request a freeze for someone if you have a valid Power of Attorney. If you are a parent/guardian/representative you can request a freeze for a minor 15 and younger. To add a security freeze on your credit report you must make a separate request to each of the three national consumer reporting agencies by phone, online, or by mail by following the instructions found at their websites (see "Contact Information" below). The following information must be included when requesting a security freeze: (i) full name, with middle initial and any suffixes; (ii) Social Security number; (iii) date of birth (month, day, and year); (iv) current address and any previous addresses for the past five (5) years; (v) proof of current address (such as a copy of a government-issued identification card, a recent utility or telephone bill, or bank or insurance statement); and (vi) other personal information as required by the applicable credit reporting agency.

### **Fraud Alert**

You have the right to add, extend, or remove a fraud alert on your credit file at no cost. A fraud alert is a statement that is added to your credit file that will notify potential credit grantors that you may be or have been a victim of identity theft. Before they extend credit, they should use reasonable procedures to verify your identity. Please note that, unlike a credit freeze, a fraud alert only notifies lenders to verify your identity before extending new credit, but it does not block access to your credit report. Fraud alerts are free to add and are valid for one year. Victims of identity theft can obtain an extended fraud alert for seven years. You can add a fraud alert by sending your request to any one of the three national reporting agencies by phone, online, or by mail by following the instructions found at their websites (see "Contact Information" below). The agency you contact will then contact the other credit agencies.

### **Federal Trade Commission**

For more information about credit freezes and fraud alerts and other steps you can take to protect yourself against identity theft, you can contact the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) at 600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20580, [www.identitytheft.gov](http://www.identitytheft.gov), 1-877-ID-THEFT (1-877-438-4338), 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 should also report instances of known or suspected identity theft to local law enforcement and the Attorney General's office in your home state and you have the right to file a police report and obtain a copy of your police report.

### **Contact Information**

Below is the contact information for the three national credit reporting agencies (Experian, Equifax, and TransUnion) if you would like to add a fraud alert or credit freeze to your credit report.

<b>Credit Reporting Agency</b>	<b>Access Your Credit Report</b>	<b>Add a Fraud Alert</b>	<b>Add a Security Freeze</b>
<b>Experian</b>	P.O. Box 2002	P.O. Box 9554	P.O. Box 9554

	Allen, TX 75013-9701 1-866-200-6020 www.experian.com	Allen, TX 75013-9554 1-888-397-3742 <a href="https://www.experian.com/fraud/center.html">https://www.experian.com/fraud/center.html</a>	Allen, TX 75013-9554 1-888-397-3742 www.experian.com/freeze/center.html
<b>Equifax</b>	P.O. Box 740241 Atlanta, GA 30374-0241 1-866-349-5191 www.equifax.com	P.O. Box 105069 Atlanta, GA 30348-5069 1-800-525-6285 www.equifax.com/personal/credit-report-services/credit-fraud-alerts	P.O. Box 105788 Atlanta, GA 30348-5788 1-888-298-0045 www.equifax.com/personal/credit-report-services
<b>TransUnion</b>	P.O. Box 1000 Chester, PA 19016-1000 1-800-888-4213 www.transunion.com	P.O. Box 2000 Chester, PA 19016 1-800-680-7289 www.transunion.com/fraud-alerts	P.O. Box 160 Woodlyn, PA 19094 1-800-916-8800 www.transunion.com/credit-freeze

**Iowa and Oregon residents** are advised to report suspected incidents of identity theft to local law enforcement, to their respective Attorney General, and the FTC.

**Massachusetts residents** are advised of their right to obtain a police report in connection with this incident.

**District of Columbia residents** are advised of their right to obtain a security freeze free of charge and can obtain information about steps to take to avoid identity theft by contacting the FTC (contact information provided above) and the Office of the Attorney General for the District of Columbia, Office of Consumer Protection, at 400 6<sup>th</sup> St. NW, Washington, D.C. 20001, by calling the Consumer Protection Hotline at (202) 442-9828, by visiting <https://oag.dc.gov>, or emailing at [consumer.protection@dc.gov](mailto:consumer.protection@dc.gov).

**Maryland residents** can obtain information about steps they can take to avoid identity theft by contacting the FTC (contact information provided above) or the Maryland Office of the Attorney General, Consumer Protection Division Office at 44 North Potomac Street, Suite 104, Hagerstown, MD 21740, by phone at 1-888-743-0023 or 410-528-8662, or by visiting <http://www.marylandattorneygeneral.gov/Pages/contactus.aspx>.

**New York residents** are advised that in response to this incident they can place a fraud alert or security freeze on their credit reports and may report any incidents of suspected identity theft to law enforcement, the FTC, the New York Attorney General, or local law enforcement. Additional information is available at the website of the New York Department of State Division of Consumer Protection at <https://dos.nysits.acsiterefactory.com/consumerprotection>; by visiting the New York Attorney General at <https://ag.ny.gov> or by phone at 1-800-771-7755; or by contacting the FTC at [www.ftc.gov/bcp/edu/microsites/idtheft/](http://www.ftc.gov/bcp/edu/microsites/idtheft/) or <https://www.identitytheft.gov/#/>.

**North Carolina residents** are advised to remain vigilant by reviewing account statements and monitoring free credit reports and may obtain information about preventing identity theft by contacting the FTC (contact information provided above) or the North Carolina Office of the Attorney General, Consumer Protection Division at 9001 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-9001, or visiting [www.ncdoj.gov](http://www.ncdoj.gov), or by phone at 1-877-5-NO-SCAM (1-877-566-7226) or (919) 716-6000.

**Rhode Island residents** are advised that they may file or obtain a police report in connection with this incident and place a security freeze on their credit file and that fees may be required to be paid to the consumer reporting agencies.