**NOTICE OF INCIDENT**

**What Happened?**

On November 13, 2023, we discovered suspicious activity on our systems with indicators consistent with a ransomware attack. We immediately began an investigation and took steps to contain the situation, including notifying federal law enforcement and engaging cybersecurity and privacy professionals to assist.

The investigation has found evidence that an unauthorized actor accessed the Coastal Plains systems from November 12, 2023, to November 13, 2023, and after extensive document analysis and review, our investigation determined that personal information was potentially accessed and/or acquired. There is currently no evidence that any information has been misused for identity theft or fraud in connection with the incident.

**What Information Was Involved?**

We determined that the following types of information may have been impacted: name, date of birth, birth certificate, Social Security number, driver’s license/government ID, other government-issued ID, passport number, medical record number, patient account number, medical provider name, health insurance information, clinical or treatment information, financial account information, and taxpayer identification number.

If you believe that the incident affected your information and would like to learn more about the specific types of information related to you that may have been impacted, please call the toll-free response line at 888-244-3081.

**What We Are Doing.**

Upon becoming aware of the Incident, we immediately implemented measures to further improve the security of our systems and practices, including changing access and authentication controls and enhancing our threat monitoring and detection processes.  After determining that an unauthorized actor gained access to our systems, we immediately began analyzing the information involved to confirm the identities of potentially affected individuals and notify them. The Coastal Plains team has worked diligently to complete our investigation, add further technical safeguards to our existing protections, and bring systems back online as quickly and securely as possible. We continue to work with leading privacy and security firms to aid in our response, and we have reported this incident to relevant government agencies. Written notification letters are being mailed July 30, 2024, to the individuals identified as potentially impacted.

**What Can Impacted Individuals Do?**

Coastal Plains encourages individuals to remain vigilant against incidents of identity theft and fraud, review account statements and explanation of benefits forms, and monitor free credit reports for suspicious activity and to detect errors.  Under U.S. law, individuals are entitled to 1 free credit report annually from each of the 3 major credit reporting bureaus.

Potentially affected individuals seeking additional information may call the toll-free assistance line at 888-244-3081, Monday through Friday from 8 am – 8 pm Central, (excluding major U.S. holidays). You may also consider the information and resources outlined below.

**Steps You Can Take to Protect Your Personal Information**

To obtain a free credit report, individuals may visit www.annualcreditreport.com or call, toll-free, 1-877-322-8228.

Alternatively, affected individuals can contact the three (3) major credit reporting bureaus directly at the addresses below:

**Equifax**, PO Box 740241, Atlanta, GA 30374, www.equifax.com, 1-800-685-1111

**Experian**, PO Box 2104, Allen, TX 75013, www.experian.com, 1-888-397-3742

**TransUnion**, PO Box 2000, Chester, PA 19022, www.transunion.com, 1-800-888-4213

**Free Credit Report.**  It is recommended that you remain vigilant for incidents of fraud and identity theft by reviewing account statements and monitoring your credit report for unauthorized activity.  You may obtain a copy of your credit report, free of charge, once every twelve (12) months from each of the three (3) nationwide credit reporting agencies.

To order your annual free credit report please visit **www.annualcreditreport.com** or call toll free at **1-877-322-8228**.

You can also order your annual free credit report by mailing a completed Annual Credit Report Request Form (available from the U.S. Federal Trade Commission’s (“FTC”) website at www.consumer.ftc.gov) to: Annual Credit Report Request Service, P.O. Box 105281, Atlanta, GA 30348-5281.

**Fraud Alert**.  You may place a fraud alert in your file by calling one (1) of the three (3) nationwide credit reporting agencies above.  A fraud alert tells creditors to follow certain procedures, including contacting you before they open any new accounts or change your existing accounts.  For that reason, placing a fraud alert can protect you, but also may delay you when you seek to obtain credit.

**Security Freeze.** You may obtain a security freeze on your credit report, free of charge, to protect your privacy and confirm that credit is not granted in your name without your knowledge. You may also submit a declaration of removal to remove information placed in your credit report as a result of being a victim of identity theft.  You have a right to place a security freeze on your credit report, free of charge, or submit a declaration of removal pursuant to the Fair Credit Reporting and Identity Security Act.

The security freeze will prohibit a consumer reporting agency from releasing any information in your credit report without your express authorization or approval.  The security freeze is designed to prevent credit, loans, and services from being approved in your name without your consent.  When you place a security freeze on your credit report, you will be provided with a personal identification number, password, or similar device to use if you choose to remove the freeze on your credit report or to temporarily authorize the release of your credit report to a specific party or parties or for a specific period of time after the freeze is in place.

To place a security freeze on your credit report, you may be able to use an online process, an automated telephone line, or a written request to any of the three (3) credit reporting agencies listed above.  The following information must be included when requesting a security freeze (note that if you are requesting a credit report for your spouse, this information must be provided for them as well): (1) full name, with middle initial, and any suffixes; (2) Social Security number; (3) date of birth; (4) current address and any previous addresses for the past five (5) years; and (5) any applicable incident report or complaint with a law enforcement agency or the Registry of Motor Vehicles.  The request must also include a copy of a government-issued identification card and a copy of a recent utility bill or bank or insurance statement.  It is essential that each copy be legible, and display your name, current mailing address, and the date of issue.

**Federal Trade Commission and State Attorneys General Offices.**  If you believe you are the victim of identity theft or have reason to believe your personal information has been misused, you should immediately contact the Federal Trade Commission and/or the Attorney General’s office in your home state.  You may also contact these agencies for information on how to prevent or avoid identity theft.  Contact information for the Consumer Response Center of the Federal Trade Commission is 600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20580, [www.ftc.gov/bcp/edu/microsites/idtheft/](http://www.ftc.gov/bcp/edu/microsites/idtheft/) or 1-877-IDTHEFT (438-4338).

**For Texas Residents**:  You may contact the Texas Office of the Attorney General, Office of the Attorney General, PO Box 12548, Austin, TX 78711-2548, [www.texasattorneygeneral.gov,](http://www.texasattorneygeneral.gov/) 1-800- 621-0508.

**Protecting Medical Information.**

If you are concerned about protecting your medical information, the following practices can provide additional safeguards to protect against medical identity theft.

* Only share your health insurance cards with your health care providers and other family members who are covered under your insurance plan or who help you with your medical care.
* Review your “explanation of benefits statement” which you receive from your health insurance company. Follow up with your insurance company or care provider for any items you do not recognize.  If necessary, contact the care provider on the explanation of benefits statement and ask for copies of medical records from the date of the potential access (noted above) to current date.
* Ask your insurance company for a current year-to-date report of all services paid for you as a beneficiary.  Follow up with your insurance company or the care provider for any items you do not recognize.