

Catholic Charities Notifies Individuals of Data Security Incident

Hartford, Connecticut – January 31, 2021 – Catholic Charities, Inc. - Archdiocese of Hartford (“Catholic Charities”) has become aware of a potential data security incident, which may have resulted in the inadvertent exposure of personal and medical information.

On May 16, 2020, Catholic Charities detected that it was the target of a cybersecurity attack. An unauthorized third party attempted to infiltrate Catholic Charities’ computer network. Catholic Charities retained a third party forensic incident response firm to investigate the incident and assist in determining if any sensitive data may have been exposed.

“The privacy and protection of sensitive information is a top priority for us,” says Anthony J. Mascaro, Jr., Chief Financial Officer at Catholic Charities. “We deeply regret any inconvenience or concern this incident may cause.”

On December 2, 2020, the investigation determined that an unknown, unauthorized third party potentially gained access to certain client and employee documents and records and could have viewed personal information for some individuals including names, addresses, birthdates, driver’s license, state identification and Social Security numbers. The client documents and records also may have contained medical record numbers, medical insurance information, and limited health information.

Importantly, the investigation did not identify specific activity around any individuals’ information and Catholic Charities is not aware of anyone experiencing fraud or identity theft as a result of this incident. The investigation also determined that the unauthorized activity was most likely in furtherance of separate financial gain, which was not related to any individuals’ sensitive information.

Catholic Charities notified the pertinent state and federal authorities as well as mailed notification letters to affected individuals on January 28, 2021, which included additional information about what occurred and a toll-free number that individuals can call to learn more about the incident. The call center can be reached at 1-800-939-4170 and is available Monday through Friday between 9:00 AM and 9:00 PM ET.