



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Notification of Data Breach

### *Division of Developmental Disabilities Members May be Affected by Unauthorized Access to Protected Health Information*

**PHOENIX - (March 13, 2023)** The Arizona Department of Economic Security Division of Developmental Disabilities (DES/DDD or Division) discovered a breach involving protected health information on January 9, 2023.

At this time, the agency cannot confirm whether any member's protected health information was further disclosed. However, it is notifying the public because protected health information was accessible to an unauthorized person or persons.

#### **What happened?**

A former DES/DDD employee had records containing protected health information pertaining to certain DES/DDD members. DES/DDD is currently unaware of the specific date of the breach.

#### **What information was involved?**

After careful review, DES/DDD has determined that the information may have included names, addresses, phone numbers, dates of birth, and Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System (AHCCCS) identification numbers for certain members of DES/DDD.

#### **What is DES/DDD doing to resolve the issue?**

DES/DDD takes the privacy and confidentiality of its members seriously. DES/DDD's investigation into the incident is ongoing. The appropriate disciplinary measures have been taken and the records have been returned to DES/DDD. As a part of the ongoing investigation, DES/DDD will evaluate additional actions that can be taken to ensure further incidents do not occur.

DES/DDD has notified 857 members whose information was confirmed to be part of this data breach that their information was potentially compromised. Members who believe their personal information was affected may:

- Place a fraud alert on their credit report
- Place a security freeze on their credit report
- Request their credit report from the three main credit-reporting agencies
- Report suspected identity theft to their local police department
- Call DES/DDD customer service at 1-844-770-9500

Additional assistance and helpful information regarding identity theft is available from the following sources:

- The Identity Theft Resource Center- [idtheftcenter.org](http://idtheftcenter.org)
- The Federal Trade Commission- [consumer.ftc.gov/topics/privacy-identity-online-security](http://consumer.ftc.gov/topics/privacy-identity-online-security)
- Arizona Attorney General's Office- [azag.gov](http://azag.gov)

###