

## Notice of Data Security Incident

Northern Light Health (“Northern Light Health”) recently became aware of the potential unauthorized access of some patients’ information. On Thursday, July 16, 2020, Northern Light Health received notification of a cyber incident from one of our third-party vendors, Blackbaud, Inc. (“Blackbaud”). Blackbaud is a cloud computing provider that offers customer relationship management and financial services tools to numerous philanthropical organizations in various industries, including healthcare. Northern Light Health, along with many other organizations around the world with charitable missions, was among the victims of this Blackbaud cyber incident. Upon receiving notice of the cyber incident, we immediately commenced an investigation to better understand the nature and scope of the incident and any impact on Northern Light Health data. This notice provides information about the Blackbaud incident, our response, and resources available to potentially affected individuals to help protect their information from possible misuse, should they feel it necessary to do so.

***What Happened?*** Blackbaud reported that in May 2020, it experienced a ransomware attack during which certain information it maintained for its customers was taken “hostage” by a cybercriminal. Blackbaud reported the incident to law enforcement and worked with forensic consultants to investigate. Following its investigation, Blackbaud notified its customers that a cybercriminal may have accessed or acquired certain Blackbaud customer data before Blackbaud locked the unknown actor out of the environment on May 20, 2020. Upon learning of the Blackbaud incident, Northern Light Health immediately began to determine what, if any, sensitive Northern Light Health data was potentially involved. This investigation included working diligently to gather further information from Blackbaud to understand the scope of the incident. On July 30, 2020, Northern Light Health received further information from Blackbaud that allowed us to determine that the information affected included some limited protected health information.

***What Information Was Involved?*** Our investigation determined that the impacted Blackbaud systems contained the patient’s name, address, phone number, email address, date of birth, gender, the Northern Light Hospital(s) (and possibly the department(s)) where the patient received medical care, and the associated date(s) of service.

***What Information Was NOT Involved?*** No credit card information or bank account information was accessed by the cybercriminal. No Acadia Hospital information was involved in this incident.

***What Has Blackbaud Done?*** Blackbaud reported that it paid the “ransom” demanded by the cybercriminal. According to Blackbaud, upon receipt of this payment this criminal stated that they deleted the copy of the data the criminal removed. Further, Blackbaud has hired an Internet expert that will continuously monitor online activity for the presence of any of the ransomed information.

***What We Are Doing.*** The confidentiality, privacy, and security of patient information is among our highest priorities, and we take this incident very seriously. As part of our ongoing commitment to the security of your information, we are working to review our existing policies and procedures regarding our third-party vendors and are working with Blackbaud to evaluate additional measures and safeguards to protect against this type of incident in the future. We also provided the legally required notification of this incident to the United States Department of Health and Human Services.

***What You Can Do.*** We recommend potentially affected individuals remain vigilant for attempts to obtain sensitive information from them using social engineering. This is when someone requests you provide sensitive information such as bank account information or Social Security number by using information about your recent medical visit in an attempt to make the request look legitimate. We also encourage potentially affected individuals to review the below *Steps You Can Take to Help Protect Your*

*Information.* There you will find general information on what potentially affected individuals can do to help protect their personal information.

If you have additional questions about this event, please call our dedicated assistance line at 877-339-1548 between the hours of 9am – 11pm ET Monday – Friday, and 11am – 8pm ET Saturday - Sunday. Be prepared to reference Engagement Number DB21847. You may also write to Northern Light Health at 43 Whiting Hill Road Suite 500, Brewer, Maine 04412.

### ***Steps You Can Take to Help Protect Your Information***

#### **Monitor Accounts**

In general, we encourage you to remain vigilant against incidents of identity theft and fraud, to review your account statements, and to monitor your credit reports for suspicious activity. Under U.S. law you are entitled to one free credit report annually from each of the three major credit reporting bureaus. To order your free credit report, visit [www.annualcreditreport.com](http://www.annualcreditreport.com) or call, toll-free, 1-877-322-8228. You may also contact the three major credit bureaus directly to request a free copy of your credit report.

You have the right to place a “security freeze” on your credit report, which will prohibit a consumer reporting agency from releasing information in your credit report without your express authorization. The security freeze is designed to prevent credit, loans, and services from being approved in your name without your consent. However, you should be aware that using a security freeze to take control over who gets access to the personal and financial information in your credit report may delay, interfere with, or prohibit the timely approval of any subsequent request or application you make regarding a new loan, credit, mortgage, or any other account involving the extension of credit. Pursuant to federal law, you cannot be charged to place or lift a security freeze on your credit report. Should you wish to place a security freeze, please contact the major consumer reporting agencies listed below:

#### **Experian**

P.O. Box 9554  
Allen, TX 75013  
1-888-397-3742  
[www.experian.com/freeze/center.html](http://www.experian.com/freeze/center.html)

#### **TransUnion**

P.O. Box 160  
Woodlyn, PA 19094  
1-888-909-8872  
[www.transunion.com/credit-freeze](http://www.transunion.com/credit-freeze)

#### **Equifax**

P.O. Box 105788  
Atlanta, GA 30348-5788  
1-800-685-1111  
[www.equifax.com/personal/credit-report-services](http://www.equifax.com/personal/credit-report-services)

In order to request a security freeze, you will need to provide the following information:

1. Your full name (including middle initial as well as Jr., Sr., II, III, etc.);
2. Social Security number;
3. Date of birth;
4. If you have moved in the past five (5) years, provide the addresses where you have lived over the prior five years;
5. Proof of current address, such as a current utility bill or telephone bill;
6. A legible photocopy of a government-issued identification card (state driver’s license or ID card, military identification, etc.);
7. If you are a victim of identity theft, include a copy of either the police report, investigative report, or complaint to a law enforcement agency concerning identity theft.

As an alternative to a security freeze, you have the right to place an initial or extended “fraud alert” on your file at no cost. An initial fraud alert is a 1-year alert that is placed on a consumer’s credit file. Upon seeing a fraud alert display on a consumer’s credit file, a business is required to take steps to verify the consumer’s identity before extending new credit. If you are a victim of identity theft, you are entitled to an extended fraud alert, which is a fraud alert lasting seven years. Should you wish to place a fraud alert, please contact any one of the agencies listed below:

**Experian**

P.O. Box 9554  
Allen, TX 75013  
1-888-397-3742

[www.experian.com/fraud/center.htm](http://www.experian.com/fraud/center.htm)

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**TransUnion**

P.O. Box 2000  
Chester, PA 19016  
1-800-680-7289

[www.transunion.com/fraud](http://www.transunion.com/fraud)

[-victim-resource/place-fraud-alert](http://www.transunion.com/fraud-victim-resource/place-fraud-alert)

**Equifax**

P.O. Box 105069  
Atlanta, GA 30348  
1-888-766-0008

[www.equifax.com/personal/credit](http://www.equifax.com/personal/credit)

[-report-services](http://www.equifax.com/personal/credit-report-services)

**Additional Information**

You can further educate yourself regarding identity theft, fraud alerts, security freezes, and the steps you can take to protect yourself by contacting the consumer reporting agencies, the Federal Trade Commission, or your state Attorney General.

The Federal Trade Commission can be reached 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 have the right to file a police report if you ever experience identity theft or fraud. Please note that in order to file a report with law enforcement for identity theft, you will likely need to provide some proof that you have been a victim. Instances of known or suspected identity theft should also be reported to law enforcement and your state Attorney General.