



STATE OF NEW YORK  
OFFICE OF THE MEDICAID INSPECTOR GENERAL  
584 Delaware Avenue  
Buffalo, New York 14202

ANDREW M. CUOMO  
GOVERNOR

JAMES C. COX  
MEDICAID INSPECTOR GENERAL

June 23, 2013

Mr. Thomas Whitney, Executive Director  
Southern Tier Environments for Living (STEL)  
715 Central Avenue  
Dunkirk, New York 14048

RE: AUDIT SUMMATION  
Provider [REDACTED]  
Audit #12-6133

Dear Mr. Whitney:

The New York State Department of Health (Department) is the single state agency responsible for the administration of the medical assistance (Medicaid) program. The Office of the Medicaid Inspector General (OMIG) is an independent office within the Department responsible for a variety of Medicaid program integrity functions. As part of its responsibilities, the OMIG conducts audits and reviews of various providers of Medicaid reimbursable services, equipment and supplies. These audits and reviews are directed at assessing provider compliance with applicable laws, regulations, rules and policies of the Medicaid program as set forth in New York Public Health Law, New York Social Services Law, the regulations of the Department of Health and the Department of Mental Hygiene (Titles 10, 14 and 18 of the Official Compilation of Codes, Rules and Regulations of the State of New York) and the Department's Medicaid Managed Care Model Contract, Medicaid Management Information System (MMIS) Provider Manuals and *Medicaid Update* publications.

A review of payments to Southern Tier Environments for Living (STEL) for OMH Rehabilitative services paid by Medicaid from January 1, 2008, through December 31, 2010, was recently completed. During the audit period, \$9,696,624.80 was paid for 4,726 claims reimbursed. This review consisted of a random sample of 100 claims with Medicaid payments of \$208,795.07. The purpose of the audit was to determine whether: services were rendered in accordance with the recipient's service plan; the agency had sufficient documentation to substantiate billed services; appropriate documentation was maintained in recipient and personnel related records; and claims for payment were submitted in accordance with New York State laws, Department regulations and the Provider Manuals for OMH Rehabilitative Services. Our audit revealed that, for the period and scope reviewed, Southern Tier Environments for Living generally adhered to applicable Medicaid billing rules and regulations.

Mr. Thomas Whitney  
Page 2  
July 23, 2013

Please be advised that pursuant to 18 NYCRR 517.3(h) the OMIG hereby concludes its review related to the above-referenced audit objective and scope. The OMIG has determined that no further action is warranted. We thank you for your continued interest and participation in the Medicaid program.

The OMIG reserves the right to conduct further reviews of your participation in the Medicaid program, take action where appropriate, and recover any associated overpayments. If you have any questions regarding the above, please contact [REDACTED] or by email at [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

Division of Medicaid Audit, Buffalo  
Office of the Medicaid Inspector General

AWM:pam