

INNOVATIVE ALTERNATIVES, INC.
1335 Regents Park Dr. 400, Houston, TX 77058

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 2, 2026

Contact: Donny Daughenbaugh, CEO | 346-427-3689 | ddaugh@innovativealternatives.org

Innovative Alternatives, Inc. Notifies Community of Data Security Incident

HOUSTON, TX – Innovative Alternatives, Inc., a Houston nonprofit providing mental health and counseling services, is notifying the public of a cybersecurity incident that may affect the personal information of approximately 1,500 individuals.

What happened. On August 2, 2026, Innovative Alternatives discovered that a ransomware attack on August 2, 2026, had encrypted files on part of its computer network. The agency immediately disconnected the affected systems and engaged a third-party cybersecurity firm to contain the incident and conduct a forensic investigation. The investigation has not determined whether data was copied or taken from the systems, so we cannot rule out that possibility. The investigation determined that data was accessed. The agency's electronic health records system was isolated from the affected systems.

What information was involved. Files on the affected systems may have contained names, contact information, clinical counseling notes, and employee contact and employment information. The types of information involved vary by individual.

What we are doing. We have changed all system and user passwords, restored affected systems, updated our server, changed our network access credentials, and run additional security scans. We are working with outside cybersecurity experts to strengthen our protections. We have notified law enforcement, including the FBI and CISA. We have also notified the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and the Texas Attorney General and as a VOCA grant recipient, the Office of the Governor. We are sending notification letters to affected individuals October 2, 2026.

What you can do. We encourage affected individuals to place a free credit freeze with each of the three major credit bureaus, which prevents new accounts from being opened in their name:

- Equifax: equifax.com/personal/credit-report-services/credit-freeze or 1-888-378-4329
- Experian: experian.com/freeze/center.html or 1-888-397-3742
- TransUnion: transunion.com/credit-freeze or 1-800-916-8800

Anyone who is unable to place a freeze should review their credit reports regularly, weekly, or monthly, to catch unauthorized accounts early. Free reports are available at annualcreditreport.com. We also recommend reviewing account statements and explanation-of-

benefits forms for unfamiliar activity and reporting anything suspicious to the relevant institution.

For more information. Individuals with questions may call 713-222-2525, Monday - Friday 8 AM - 5 PM, or visit www.innovativealternatives.org, or write to Innovative Alternatives, Inc. 13355 Regents Park Dr. 400, Houston, TX 77058.

Innovative Alternatives sincerely regrets this incident and is committed to protecting the privacy of the people it serves.