



State of Rhode Island
Rhode Island Department of Children, Youth and Families

November 29, 2023

The Rt. Reverend Nicholas Knisely, Chair
Mr. Jeffrey P. Cascione, President
Board of Directors
St. Mary's Home for Children
420 Fruit Hill Avenue
North Providence, Rhode Island 02911

RE: Request for Meeting with the Board of Directors

Dear Chair Rt. Rev. Knisely and President Cascione:

On behalf of the Department of Children, Youth and Families (DCYF), I am requesting an urgent, in-person meeting with the Board of Directors for the St. Mary's Home for Children no later than Friday, December 8th, 2023.

You may be aware that DCYF has had significant concerns related to the operations of Residential Services at St. Mary's. We have met with Carlene Casciano-McCann and the St. Mary's team regularly to address our concerns. However, significant issues remain outstanding.

Given the seriousness of the situation, including the potential risk to the safety and well-being of our youth, I am compelled to bring these issues before the Board to discuss immediate actions necessary to generate meaningful program improvement.

Upon receipt of this letter, please contact Kerri Costigan (kerri.costigan@dcyf.ri.gov) for scheduling purposes. Thank you in advance for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Ashley Deckert
Director

CC: Board of Directors, St. Mary's Home for Children
Ms. Carlene Casciano-McCann, Executive Director
Mr. Richard Charest, Secretary, Executive Office of Health and Human Services