



Catholic Social Services

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News Release

For Immediate Release

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Announcement

Anchorage — On February 2, 2011, Catholic Social Services (CSS) became aware of a theft of client information which occurred on February 1, 2011. A laptop used by a contractor of the Pregnancy Support and Adoption Services program had been stolen from the contractor's vehicle. The laptop contained personal information on individuals who had requested a home study in order to adopt a child from 2008 - 2010. Information in the studies may have included some or all of the following for each individual: name, address, phone number, email, date of birth, driver's license, health, family history, financial status, and recommendation for readiness to adopt.

It is not expected that the thief will be apprehended, as this theft took place out of state. Although the laptop has not been recovered, we believe that there is a low likelihood of identity theft. The laptop was password protected and we are uncertain if the information was accessed. However, as with any breach of personal information, some risk does remain. If you are concerned about potential risk of identity theft and would like to learn how to protect yourself, CSS recommends the Federal Trade Commission's (FTC) website tools available at: <http://www.ftc.gov/bcp/ecu/microsites/idtheft/tools.html> If you do not have access to the internet, you can call the FTC at 1-877-ID-THEFT (1-877-438-4338): TTY: 1-866-653-4261.

CSS wants to assure its' clients, donors, and the public in general that we have taken steps in order to reduce the risk of a similar incident in the future and deeply regrets any damage to trust this incident has caused. CSS is dedicated to providing the highest level of service and confidentiality to all of our clients.

CSS is taking the following steps to increase data security and protect the privacy of current and future individuals accessing our services:

- Employing encryption methods for confidential information
- Updating confidentiality policies and procedures
- Updating contractor requirements and increasing contractor oversight
- Increased employee training

For more information, call CSS at 1-855-222-7309 or 222-7309.

