

# Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20510

August 23, 2024

The Honorable Dr. Mandy Cohen, MD, MPH  
Director, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention  
1600 Clifton Road  
Atlanta, GA 30329

Dear Dr. Cohen,

We write to you concerning the performance of the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)'s contracting office and their administration contracts for the World Trade Center Health Program. We are committed to ensuring the World Trade Center Health Program continues to provide the health care and medical monitoring as was originally intended when the *James Zadroga Act* was signed into law in 2011.

We received copies of 911 Health Watch Inc, letters to you regarding the National Provider Network (NPN) contract of February 6<sup>th</sup>, 2024, its Third-Party Administrator (TPA) contract of March 20, 2024, and Pharmacy Benefit Manager (PBM) contract of April 11, 2024. These letters raise serious questions regarding the CDC contract offices and make specific recommendations for future Request for Proposals.

We share these concerns and request the CDC contracting office implement the following suggestions:

1. Enforceable termination provisions that allow the program to fire a vendor who is not meeting performance standards, while still requiring a continuation of services until they can be replaced.
2. Financial Penalties so that action, short of termination, can be taken against vendors who are not meeting contract requirements.
3. Implementing contract Performance Statistics that would require any future contracts to periodically issue a public release of contract performance statistics. The current contracts preclude the release of contract performance statistics by vendors, hiding the details of their performance from the public.

It is clear that if administration contracts were constructed with specific enforcement provisions and more rigorous requirements, 9/11 responders and survivors would be better served by the World Trade Center Health Program's contracted vendors.

We appreciate your attention to this critical issue and look forward to hearing how the CDC contract office will implement these suggestions.

Sincerely,



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Kirsten Gillibrand  
United States Senator



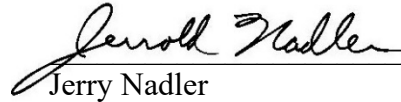
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Andrew Garbarino  
Member of Congress



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Charles E. Schumer  
United States Senator



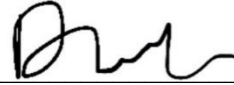
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Jerry Nadler  
Member of Congress



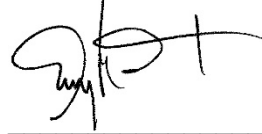
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Mike Braun  
United States Senator



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Dan Goldman  
Member of Congress



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Anthony D'Esposito  
Member of Congress