# **CHILDREN'S INSTITUTE, INC.**

# **REQUIRED COMMUNICATIONS LETTER**

**JUNE 30, 2016** 



Certified Public Accountants



September 30, 2016

Audit Committee Members Children's Institute, Inc. 274 North Goodman Street, Suite D103 Rochester, NY 14607

We have audited the financial statements of Children's Institute, Inc. (the "Institute") as of and for the year ended June 30, 2016, and have issued our report thereon dated September 30, 2016. Professional standards require that we advise you of the following matters relating to our audit.

#### Our Responsibility in Relation to the Financial Statement Audit

As communicated in our engagement letter dated June 6, 2016, our responsibility, as described by professional standards, is to form and express an opinion about whether the financial statements that have been prepared by management with your oversight are presented fairly, in all material respects, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Our audit of the financial statements does not relieve you or management of its respective responsibilities.

Our responsibility, as prescribed by professional standards, is to plan and perform our audit to obtain reasonable, rather than absolute, assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit of financial statements includes consideration of internal control over financial reporting as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Institute's internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, as part of our audit, we considered the internal control of Children's Institute, Inc. solely for the purpose of determining our audit procedures and not to provide any assurance concerning such internal control.

We are also responsible for communicating significant matters related to the audit that are, in our professional judgment, relevant to your responsibilities in overseeing the financial reporting process. However, we are not required to design procedures for the purpose of identifying other matters to communicate to you.

#### Planned Scope and Timing of the Audit

We conducted our audit consistent with the planned scope and timing we previously communicated to you.

#### Compliance with All Ethics Requirements Regarding Independence

The engagement team, others in our firm, as appropriate and our firm have complied with all relevant ethical requirements regarding independence.

## **Qualitative Aspects of the Institute's Significant Accounting Practices**

Significant Accounting Policies

Management has the responsibility to select and use appropriate accounting policies. A summary of the significant accounting policies adopted by Children's Institute, Inc. is included in Note A to the financial statements. There have been no initial selection of accounting policies and no changes in significant accounting policies or their application during 2016. No matters have come to our attention that would require us, under professional standards, to inform you about (1) the methods used to account for significant unusual transactions and (2) the effect of significant accounting policies in controversial or emerging areas for which there is a lack of authoritative guidance or consensus.

### Significant Accounting Estimates

Accounting estimates are an integral part of the financial statements prepared by management and are based on management's current judgments. Those judgments are normally based on knowledge and experience about past and current events and assumptions about future events. Certain accounting estimates are particularly sensitive because of their significance to the financial statements and because of the possibility that future events affecting them may differ markedly from management's current judgments. We have made tests of management's estimates and deemed them to be appropriate.

## Financial Statement Disclosures

Certain financial statement disclosures involve significant judgement and are particularly sensitive because of their significance to financial statement users. The most sensitive disclosures affecting Children's Institute's financial statements are related to the endowment and joint venture.

#### Significant Difficulties Encountered during the Audit

We encountered no significant difficulties in dealing with management relating to the performance of the audit.

## **Uncorrected and Corrected Misstatements**

For purposes of this communication, professional standards require us to accumulate all known and likely misstatements identified during the audit, other than those that we believe are trivial, and communicate them to the appropriate level of management. Further, professional standards require us to also communicate the effect of uncorrected misstatements related to prior periods on the relevant classes of transactions, account balances or disclosures, and the financial statements as a whole. There were no uncorrected or corrected misstatements identified by us during the audit.

### **Disagreements with Management**

For purposes of this letter, professional standards define a disagreement with management as a matter, whether or not resolved to our satisfaction, concerning a financial accounting, reporting, or auditing matter, which could be significant to Children's Institute, Inc.'s financial statements or the auditor's report. No such disagreements arose during the course of the audit.

### **Representations Requested from Management**

We have requested certain written representations from management, which are included in the management representation letter.

## **Management's Consultations with Other Accountants**

In some cases, management may decide to consult with other accountants about auditing and accounting matters. Management informed us that, and to our knowledge, there were no consultations with other accountants regarding auditing and accounting matters.

## **Other Significant Matters, Findings or Issues**

In the normal course of our professional association with Children's Institute, Inc., we generally discuss a variety of matters, including the application of accounting principles and auditing standards, operating conditions affecting the Institute, and operating plans and strategies that may affect the risks of material misstatement. None of the matters discussed resulted in a condition to our retention as Children's Institute, Inc.'s auditors.

With respect to the supplementary information accompanying the financial statements, we made certain inquiries of management and evaluated the form, content, and methods of preparing the information to determine that the information complies with the requirements established by the Grantor organizations, the methods of preparing it has not changed from the prior period, and the information is appropriate and complete in relation to our audit of the financial statements. We compared and reconciled the supplementary information to the underlying accounting records used to prepare the financial statements or to the financial statements themselves.

At June 30, 2016, Children's Institute has an account receivable from COMET, LLC for \$604,372. Management has determined that a \$400,000 allowance for doubtful accounts is necessary. Management does not expect to receive any repayments on the receivable in the upcoming year, and it is therefore classified as a long-term asset on the balance sheet. Mengel Metzger Barr and Co. concurs with management relative to the allowance, however, believes it is in the best interest of Children's Institute to continue to closely monitor the level and growth of this receivable.

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Should you desire further information concerning these matters, Ray Jacobi or Kate Welc will be happy to meet with you at your convenience.

This letter is solely for the internal use of the Audit Committee, Board of Directors, and management of Children's Institute, Inc. and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than the specified parties.

Very truly yours,

MENGEL, METZGER, BARR & CO. LLP

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