

May 1, 2020

To the Board of Directors and Management of  
START International, Inc.

This letter is provided to advise you of matters required to be communicated to those charged with governance, and to discuss our consideration of internal control in our recently completed audit of the financial statements of START International, Inc. (START) as of and for the year ended December 31, 2019.

### ***REQUIRED COMMUNICATIONS (Governance)***

We have audited the financial statements of START as of and for the year ended December 31, 2019, and have issued our report thereon dated April 30, 2020. Professional standards require that we provide you with information about our responsibilities under generally accepted auditing standards; *Government Auditing Standards* and Title 2 U.S. *Code of Federal Regulations* (CFR) Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards* (Uniform Guidance); our responsibility for supplementary information; as well as certain information related to the planned scope and timing of our audit. We have communicated such information to you in our letter dated January 9, 2020. Professional standards also require that we communicate to you the following information related to our audit.

### **Qualitative Aspects of Accounting Practices**

Management is responsible for the selection and use of appropriate accounting policies. The significant accounting policies used by START are described in Note 2 to the financial statements. Other than the following, no new accounting policies were adopted and the application of existing policies was not changed during the year:

- Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) Accounting Standards Update (ASU) 2014-09, *Revenue from Contracts with Customers* (Topic 606), as amended, supersedes or replaces nearly all revenue recognition guidance under accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. These standards establish a new contract and control-based revenue recognition model, change the basis for deciding when revenue is recognized over time or at a point in time, and expand disclosures about revenue. START has implemented Topic 606 and has adjusted, if applicable, the presentation in these financial statements accordingly. The amendments have been applied retrospectively to all periods presented. The implementation had no impact on the previously reported net assets.
- In June 2018, the FASB issued ASU 2018-08, *Clarifying the Scope and the Accounting Guidance for Contributions Received and Contributions Made*. This standard assists entities in evaluating whether transactions should be accounted for as contributions or exchange transactions and determining whether a contribution is conditional. START has implemented ASU 2018-08 applicable to both contributions received and to contributions made in these financial statements under a modified prospective basis. The implementation had no impact on the previously reported net assets.

**Qualitative Aspects of Accounting Practices (continued)**

We noted no transactions entered into by START during the year for which there is a lack of authoritative guidance or consensus. All significant transactions have been recognized in the financial statements in the proper period.

Accounting estimates are an integral part of the financial statements prepared by management and are based on management's 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 significantly from those expected. The most sensitive estimates affecting the financial statements related to revenue recognition, functional expense allocations, and management's estimate of the collectability of accounts and grants receivable. These estimates were based on management's analysis of revenues, time and level of effort tracking of expenses, and historical collection rates and analysis of collectability of individual accounts. We evaluated the key factors and assumptions used to develop these estimates in determining that they are reasonable in relation to the financial statements taken as a whole.

The financial statement disclosures are neutral, consistent, and clear.

**Difficulties Encountered in Performing the Audit**

We encountered no significant difficulties in dealing with management in performing our audit.

**Corrected and Uncorrected Misstatements**

Professional standards require us to accumulate all known *uncorrected* misstatements identified during the audit, other than those that are clearly trivial, and communicate them to the appropriate level of management. There were no uncorrected misstatements noted during our audit.

In addition, professional standards require us to accumulate all significant, *corrected* misstatements identified during the audit and communicate them to the appropriate level of management. There were no such misstatements noted during the audit.

**Disagreements with Management**

For purposes of this letter, a disagreement with management is a financial accounting, reporting, or auditing matter, whether or not resolved to our satisfaction, that could be significant to the financial statements or the auditor's report. We are pleased to report that no such disagreements arose during the course of our audit.

**Management Representations**

We have requested certain representations from management that are included in the management representation letter dated April 30, 2020. This is a standard letter we are required to obtain prior to issuing our report on the financial statements. A copy of that letter has been retained by management and made available for review by the governing body.

**Management Consultations with Other Independent Accountants**

In some cases, management may decide to consult with other accountants about auditing and accounting matters, similar to obtaining a “second opinion” on certain situations. If a consultation involves the application of an accounting principle to START’s financial statements or a determination of the type of auditor’s opinion that may be expressed on those statements, our professional standards require the consulting accountant to check with us to determine that the consultant has all of the relevant facts. To our knowledge, there were no such consultations with other accountants.

**Other Audit Findings or Issues**

We generally discuss a variety of matters, including the application of accounting principles and auditing standards, with management each year prior to retention as START’s auditors. However, these discussions occurred in the normal course of our professional relationship and our responses were not a condition to our retention.

**Supplementary Information**

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 U.S. generally accepted accounting principles, the method 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.

***CONSIDERATION OF INTERNAL CONTROL (Management Letter)***

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements of START as of and for the year ended December 31, 2019, in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, we considered START’s internal control over financial reporting (“internal control”) as a basis for designing our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of START’s internal control.

A deficiency in internal control exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct misstatements on a timely basis. A material weakness is a deficiency, or combination of deficiencies in internal control, such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the entity’s financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected on a timely basis.

***CONSIDERATION OF INTERNAL CONTROL (Management Letter) (continued)***

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses. In addition, because of inherent limitations in internal control, including the possibility of management override of controls, misstatements due to error or fraud may occur and not be detected by such controls. Our audit was also not designed to identify deficiencies in internal control that might be significant deficiencies. A significant deficiency is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, material weaknesses may exist that have not been identified.

***SUMMARY***

The communications in this letter are intended solely for the information and use of the Board of Directors and Management, and are not intended to be, and should not be, used by anyone other than these specified parties.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rogers + Company PLLC". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly stylized font.**ROGERS & COMPANY PLLC**