

Informed Consent
Social Network Analysis of Clark County
Washington Youth Transition Network

Regional Research Institute
for Human Services

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*The Regional Research Institute is affiliated
with the Graduate School of Social Work*

What is being done. The Regional Research Institute for Human Services at Portland State University and the University of Massachusetts Medical School are partnering to conduct a research project in Clark County, Washington. Your agency has been identified as one that may provide services that can include individuals aged 14-25 who have serious mental health conditions and have been served by the Regional Services Network (RSN) as adolescents. We refer to this group of services and supports as the Clark County transition system. The purpose of the study is to describe the changes in the transition system and the interconnectedness of the organizations it contains as a result of the Options Project which was designed to enhance the system. We will ask questions about the degree to which the organization shares referrals and information with other organizations in the network, evaluation of the quality of the program and the system, and the degree to which the program's and system's practices are consistent with current guidelines for serving this population as they transition into adulthood.

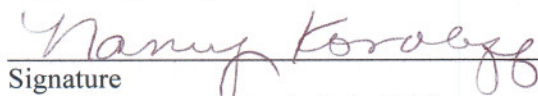
What is being asked of you. You have been nominated to provide information for your program. The data collection has two parts: response to an on-line survey which takes about 20 minutes and a face to face interview which takes less than an hour. We would like to include you because you are familiar both with the workings of your program/agency and with its relationship to other program/agencies in Clark County. You will be answering the questions as a representative of your program/agency. You are free to keep the \$10 Starbuck gift card whether or not you chose to participate.

Will the information I provide be confidential? The name of each agency or program that participates will appear in the report. Individuals who provide data will be given the option to have their names included in an Appendix. Even if you choose not to have your name listed, it may be possible for some readers to guess who from your agency was interviewed. Participation in this research is voluntary and you may withdraw at anytime without affecting your agencies relationship to the Department of Community Services or Portland State University.

Will we see the results? The end product of this series of interviews is called a network analysis, which will describe changes in the strength and direction of the relationships between all of the relevant agencies in the Clark County area. This information will be used to help the RSN and the Clark County Department of Community Services continue to improve services for youth with serious emotional disturbance as they mature from ages 14 to 25. Results of the study will also be made available to your agency/program.

Who can provide more information? If you have questions right now, the interviewer can answer them for you. If at any time you have questions please feel free to contact the principal investigators of this project; Nancy Koroloff, Ph.D., here at PSU (503) 725-4157 or Maryann Davis, Ph.D. (508) 856-8718, and the University of Massachusetts. If you have questions or concerns about the ethical conduct of this research, you may contact the Compliance Officer at the Office of Research and Sponsored Projects, Portland State University, 503-725-4288. The interviewer will give you a copy of this consent form so you can remember these numbers.

I agree to participate in this interview:



Signature

Date

- My name can be included in the appendix of the report
 I prefer that my name not appear in the report.