

Attachment A: Interview Brochure

Street Outreach Program Data Collection Project

HOW LONG WILL IT TAKE?

Your participation would involve **one interview session** that lasts 1.0–1.5 hours. We will conduct the interview at the most convenient place for you. For each interview session, you will be provided a \$20.00 gift card in appreciation for your time. Also, we may give you 3 coupons to hand out to other homeless youth you know. You will receive a \$10 gift card for each person who turns in a coupon and completes an interview.

IS EVERYTHING PRIVATE?

All information you give us is kept **strictly** private. Questionnaires are marked with only ID numbers, not names, and are kept in locked cabinets in locked offices. The information you share with us will only be used for this project and will never be used for anything else.

WHAT HAPPENS TO THIS INFORMATION?

The information from this survey will be used to design programs to help homeless youth and young adults with housing, education, healthcare, counseling services, and other important needs.

If you have any questions,
please call the project manager,
Devan Crawford at 1-888-567-5285

OUTREACH PROJECT
Interview
2012-2013

[AGENCY NAME]
in partnership with
The University of Nebraska-Lincoln
and
The Family and Youth Services Bureau

WHAT IS THE STREET OUTREACH PROJECT?

We are doing a study to understand the needs of homeless youth and young adults. You have been selected as one of the 62 individuals we will be talking with in [CITY]. If you are a young person currently without permanent housing we would like you to participate in our study.

This important study involves 680 homeless youth in 11 cities. It is one of the most far-reaching studies of homelessness among young people in the nation.

The information we collect while talking with you will help us identify what kinds of services will best help young people who do not have permanent housing. Participation in the project is completely voluntary.

By participating in the project you will be providing us with valuable information about your childhood history, your life experiences, and your housing history which will help us provide agencies in your area with helpful information about how to better serve you and your community. Our hope is that agencies in your area can use this information to increase the quality of life of homeless young people in and around the [CITY] metro area.

WHO CAN PARTICIPATE?

Only young people age 14-21 without a permanent place to stay in each of the cities can participate. Some of the individuals who participate in the study will be selected by [AGENCY] and others will be referred by young people who have completed the interview.

WHAT WILL WE ASK YOU TO DO?

Specially-trained interviewers will visit with you at a convenient place and time. They will talk with you and enter your answers into a computer. The interview will also be audio-recorded but your name will not be attached to your recording. The interviewer will upload your answers to a server at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, where data will be analyzed and information will be sent back to agencies in your city.

Your responses will be linked to you with ONLY a random ID number. Your name will not be linked to your answers. All responses will be private and your answers will not be shared with anyone. Agencies will not be allowed to see your individual responses.

WHAT KINDS OF QUESTIONS ARE ASKED?

We will talk to you about many different topics during the interview. During the interview, ***you may choose not to answer any question*** that makes you uncomfortable or that you do not want to answer.

We will ask you about:

- Your thoughts and feelings
- Your relationships and family
- Your feelings about your life
- Your own behaviors and emotions
- Where you have been staying
- How you became homeless
- What has happened to you since you have been without permanent housing
- Physical, sexual, and emotional abuse
- Drug and alcohol use
- Gang activity
- Sexual behaviors

Some of the questions will ask about personal and private things that may trigger unpleasant memories. We know that these topics are difficult to talk about. Everything you tell the interviewer is private and no one outside of our research team will see your answers.