

Appendix B: Information and Consent Sheet for Instrument 2

Information Sheet and Consent Form for Initial Screening Survey

Study Title: Safe Access for Victims' Economic Security (SAVES) – Quantitative Survey with Domestic Violence Survivors

Invitation to Participate: You are being invited to complete a brief screening survey to see if you are eligible to participate in a private one-time online survey. This study is part of the Safe Access for Victims' Economic Security (SAVES) Demonstration, which is a project funded by the Office of Child Support Enforcement (OCSE) within the Administration for Children and Families (ACF) and aims to improve safety and access within the child support program for domestic violence survivors. This study has been reviewed and approved by the Heartland Institutional Review Board (HIRB).

Before deciding whether to take part, please read the following information. You are encouraged to ask questions. Your participation is voluntary.

Purpose of the Screening Survey: This screening survey will ask you for your age, if you have any children, and whether you have experience with domestic violence. Your answers to these questions will help us determine if you are eligible for the main survey. The survey is designed to better understand how domestic violence survivors experience the child support program and what improvements are needed.

What Participation Involves:

- You will first be invited to complete a short eligibility screening survey, followed by a one-time anonymous survey. These two surveys will take a total of 20 minutes.
- The survey will ask about your child support experiences, safety concerns, and what worked or didn't work for you in the child support process.

Privacy:

The Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This collection of information is voluntary and will be used to better understand efforts to increase safe access to child support, parenting time, and establishment of parentage services for survivors of domestic violence. Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 20 minutes per response, including the time for including time to review the consent form. An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number. The OMB number and expiration date for this collection are OMB #: XXXX-XXXX, Exp: XX/XX/202X. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden to Center for Policy Research; 1570 Emerson Street Denver, Colorado 80218.

- No identifying information is collected in the screening survey or follow-up survey.
- All responses are stored securely on encrypted, password-protected servers that comply with federal data protection standards.
- Your answers will only be accessible to the research team and will never be linked to your name.
- However, it is possible that we would have to release information in some situations required by law, such as if we learn of child abuse and neglect, or harm to yourself or others.

Risk and Discomfort: This study includes questions about sensitive topics, including experiences of emotional, physical, or psychological harm (e.g., domestic violence or abuse). We recognize that this content may be distressing or triggering. You are never required to answer any question that makes you uncomfortable. You may pause or stop the interview at any time, for any reason, and without penalty.

If you are in need of immediate support, please consider reaching out to a trusted person or a trained professional.

Here is a list of resources:

- **National Domestic Violence Hotline**
Available at: 1-800-799-7233 | www.thehotline.org
Offers: 24/7 confidential support via phone or live chat.
- **Crisis Text Line**
Available at: Text **HELLO** to **741741**
Offers: 24/7 support for any crisis, emotional or psychological.
- **SAMHSA National Helpline**
Available at: 1-800-662-HELP (4357) | samhsa.gov/find-help/national-helpline
Offers: Free, confidential help in English and Spanish, 24/7.

Voluntary Participation: Participation is completely voluntary. You may skip questions or stop at any time. You can also choose not to continue after completing the screening survey.

Questions or Concerns:

If you have questions about the study, contact:

Betty Tegegne, Center for Policy Research

Email: betty@centerforpolicyresearch.org

This study has been reviewed and approved by the Heartland Institutional Review Board. If you have questions about your rights as a participant, contact:

Heartland IRB | Phone: 866-618-4472 | Email: director@heartlandirb.org

Consent Statement:

By checking below, you confirm that you understand the study and voluntarily agree to complete the screening survey:

- ☐ I agree to participate
- ☐ I do not agree to participate

Information Sheet and Consent Form for the Quantitative Survey with DV Survivors

Study Title: Safe Access for Victims' Economic Security (SAVES) – Quantitative Survey with Domestic Violence Survivors

Invitation to Participate: You are invited to participate in a research study conducted by the Center for Policy Research (CPR), as part of the Safe Access for Victims' Economic Security (SAVES) Demonstration. SAVES is funded by the Office of Child Support Enforcement (OCSE) within the Administration for Children and Families (ACF) and aims to improve safety and access within the child support program for domestic violence survivors. This study has been reviewed and approved by the Heartland Institutional Review Board (HIRB).

Before deciding whether to take part, please read the following information. You are encouraged to ask questions. Your participation is voluntary.

Purpose of the Study: The purpose of this research is to understand how survivors of domestic violence experience county, state, or tribal child support programs. This includes exploring why some survivors choose to engage with the program while others do not, what safety concerns they may have, and how the child support system can be improved to better support survivors.

Why You Were Selected: You are being asked to participate because you indicated that you are a survivor of domestic violence who has children and may be eligible for or has had experience with the child support program. You may have already used child support services or have chosen not to for personal or safety reasons. Your responses will help us

understand what works and improve the child support program to make it safer and more accessible for survivors.

What Will Happen if You Participate:

- You will complete a one-time online survey that takes approximately 20 minutes.
- The survey will include questions about your experiences with the child support program, potential safety concerns, reasons for engaging or not, and your opinions on how services can be improved.

Risks and Discomforts: This study includes questions about sensitive topics, including experiences of emotional, physical, or psychological harm (e.g., domestic violence or abuse). We recognize that this content may be distressing or triggering. You are never required to answer any question that makes you uncomfortable. You may pause or stop the interview at any time, for any reason, and without penalty. If you are in need of immediate support, please consider reaching out to a trusted person or a trained professional.

Here is a list of resources:

- **National Domestic Violence Hotline**
Available at: 1-800-799-7233 | www.thehotline.org
Offers: 24/7 confidential support via phone or live chat.
- **Crisis Text Line**
Available at: Text **HELLO** to **741741**
Offers: 24/7 support for any crisis, emotional or psychological.
- **SAMHSA National Helpline**
Available at: 1-800-662-HELP (4357) | samhsa.gov/find-help/national-helpline
Offers: Free, confidential help in English and Spanish, 24/7.

Benefits: There is no direct personal benefit to you. Your responses may help inform improvements in child support program safety for survivors.

Compensation: There is no payment for completing the survey.

Privacy: We will take all reasonable steps to protect your identity.

- The survey will not collect your name or identifying information.
- All responses will be stored securely on encrypted and password protected servers only accessible to the research team
- Your responses will not be linked to your name or identifying information. Findings from the study will only be reported in summary form – for example, by showing overall patterns like “75% of respondents said safety was a concern” – so that no individual can be identified from the results.
- Only the research team will have access to the data.

Voluntary Participation: Participation is voluntary. You may stop at any time or skip any questions. You can also withdraw from the study any time. If you withdraw, you may request that your data be destroyed.

Questions or Concerns:

If you have questions about the study, contact:

Betty Tegegne, Center for Policy Research

Email: betty@centerforpolicyresearch.org

This project has been reviewed and approved by the Heartland Institutional Review Board. There are no anticipated risks to participating in this study. If you have questions about your rights as a participant, contact:

Heartland Institutional Review Board

Phone: 866-618-HIRB (4472)

Email: director@heartlandirb.org

Consent Statement: By checking "I agree to participate," you confirm that:

- You understand the purpose and procedures of the study.
- You are voluntarily choosing to participate.

☐ I agree to participate

☐ I do not agree to participate