



Study Information Sheet

Chafee Strengthening Outcomes for the Transition to Adulthood (Chafee SOTA) Evaluation Study

Title: Chafee Strengthening Outcomes for Transition to Adulthood (Chafee SOTA)

Project Director: Kathryn Henderson, Ph.D.

Sponsor: The Administration for Children and Families (ACF)

Invitation to Take Part and Introduction

You are invited to be part of a study about programs that help young adults who are leaving foster care. We want to learn about services and supports you may be getting, and how they have helped you with your work and life. You are an expert on what you need and what works for you, and we appreciate hearing your thoughts and ideas.

Research Activities

The study will occur over the next year. Activities will include:

- 1.) An online survey at the start of the study. This survey will take about 30 minutes to complete and will ask about your education, jobs, housing, child welfare history, and help you have received. It will also ask about challenges you have faced in school or work, and some basic information about you like your age. As a token of appreciation, you will get a \$50 gift card for completing the survey. If you complete the survey within two days of receiving the survey link will receive a \$5 bonus.
- 2.) Two online surveys that we will send you six and 12 months into the study. In these surveys, we will ask about your experiences with education, jobs, and housing over the last six months. Each survey should take no more than 30 minutes. Like the first survey, you will get a \$50 gift card as a token of

appreciation for completing each follow-up survey. If you complete both the baseline and the final follow-up survey you will receive a \$50 bonus.

Your Rights

It is important for you to know that:

- Being in this study is entirely voluntary. You can decide if you want to take part. It's up to you, and nothing bad will happen if you do not join the study.
- If you agree to join the study, you can change your mind at any time. You can also skip any survey questions you do not want to answer.
- Your answers will be kept private. We will not share your information with anyone else, such as staff from any programs that help you, your family, the police, or your school. When we share results, we will not use your name or other information that could identify you.
- We will keep your information safe. There are plans in place to protect your personal information.

Risks and Benefits

Being in the study is not likely to cause you any harm. However, some survey questions about your personal experiences may be difficult or upsetting to answer. Please remember that you can skip any questions you do not want to answer, for any reason, and you may leave the study at any time.

You will not directly benefit from being in this study. However, by completing the surveys, you will provide valuable information that can help to improve the MFP program and other services for young adults leaving foster care.

Protection of Data from Disclosure

This research is covered by a Certificate of Confidentiality from the National Institutes of Health. The researchers with this Certificate may not disclose or use information that may identify you in any federal, state, or local civil, criminal, administrative, legislative, or other action, suit, or proceeding, or be used as evidence, for example, if there is a court subpoena, unless you have consented for this use. Information protected by this Certificate cannot be disclosed to anyone else who is not connected with the research except, if there is a federal, state, or local law that requires disclosure (such as to report child abuse or communicable diseases but not for federal, state, or local civil, criminal, administrative, legislative,

or other proceedings); if you have consented to the disclosure, including for your medical treatment; or if it is used for other scientific research, as allowed by federal regulations protecting research subjects.

The Certificate of Confidentiality will not be used to prevent disclosure as required by federal, state, or local law of child abuse or a threat to harm yourself or others.

Questions

If you have questions about your rights or how you are treated in the study, please contact the Westat Human Subjects Protections Office at (888) 920-7631; please leave a message with your first name, the name of the study (Chafee Strengthening Outcomes for Transition to Adulthood), and a phone number beginning with the area code. Someone will get back to you as soon as possible. If you have any other questions about the study, you can call Dr. Kathryn Henderson, the Project Director, at 301-610-4849.