

## RESEARCH PARTICIPANT INFORMATION SHEET

**STUDY TITLE:** Richmond LGBTQIA+ Community Needs Assessment: Survey Participants

**VCU INVESTIGATOR:** Eli Coston, Ph.D., Assistant Professor, Department of Gender, Sexuality and Women's Studies

**SPONSORS:** Richmond Memorial Health Foundation and the Laughing Gull Foundation

You are invited to participate in a research study about the experiences and needs of LGBTQIA+ identified persons living in or around Richmond and the provider perception of the needs of the LGBTQIA+ community. The study is being conducted to inform the development and targeting of potential requests for support for services, programs and resources for the LGBTQIA+ community. Your participation is voluntary. You may decide not to participate in this study. If you do participate, you may withdraw from the study at any time.

In this study, you will be asked to do the following things: Complete an online survey and respond to a series of questions about the experiences, needs, and services available for the LGBTQ+ community in the Richmond area. We will not ask for your name or contact information.

### **Will any parts of this study make me feel bad?**

Sometimes talking about some of the issues raised makes people upset. You do not have to respond to any questions about anything you do not want to.

### **How will this study help me?**

We do not know if being in this study will help you. But the researchers might find out something that will help members of the LGBTQ+ community.

### **Do I have to be in this study?**

You do not have to be in this study. It is up to you. You can say okay now and change your mind later. No one will blame you or get mad at you if you don't want to do this. All you have to do is tell us you want to stop.

If you have any questions, concerns, or complaints about this study now or in the future, please contact Eli Coston, (804) 404-3179, [ecoston@vcu.edu](mailto:ecoston@vcu.edu)