

RESEARCH PARTICIPANT INFORMATION SHEET

STUDY TITLE: Richmond LGBTQIA+ Community Needs Assessment: Key Informant Interviews

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: Take part in an individual interview and respond to a series of questions about the experiences, needs, and services available for the LGBTQIA+ community in the Richmond area. We will record your voice during the interview. We will not record your name.

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 talk about anything you do not want to talk about. You can stop the interview at any time. If you do become upset, the people running the interview will assist.

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 LGBTQIA+ community.

Will you tell anyone what I say?

We will not tell anyone the answers you give us. We will not share your answers with others.

If you tell us that someone is hurting you, the law says that we have to let other people know so they can help you. If you tell us that you might hurt yourself or someone else, then we have to let people know.

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