

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

WHY IS THIS STUDY BEING CONDUCTED?

More than half of all children will experience some trauma or life stressor by the time they reach adulthood. Traumatic experiences are challenging for anyone, but they are even more challenging for youth. Many youth have a hard time accessing supports and resources to respond and recover from trauma or life stressors. Based on research about untreated stress related to experiencing trauma and adversity, we believe that *Link for Equity*, a culturally-responsive, trauma-informed system of support, will promote school-wide decreases in student stress, school violence, and differences in discipline by race/ethnicity.

Link for Equity is being conducted to find out if it can help students deal with challenging life experiences like bullying, racism, and discrimination. Our team trains school staff on connecting with their students of color in a culturally responsive way. Student stress, experiences of discrimination, discipline records, and connectedness with adults will be measured throughout the study to evaluate its impact.

WHY WAS I CONTACTED FOR THIS STUDY?

Your school district is collaborating with the University of Minnesota and Emory University on this study. Students who identify as full or part Indigenous/Native/American Indian, Black/African American, or Latino/Hispanic are eligible to participate.

WHAT WILL I BE ASKED TO DO?

Your participation involves completing on-line surveys about stressful experiences including racial microaggressions, your reactions to these experiences, and your sources of support. Just in case you do not already know, microaggressions are subtle negative comments or actions that are directed at certain groups of people. You will be asked to complete two surveys per year, for each year you are enrolled in a participating school.

HOW LONG WILL IT TAKE ME TO COMPLETE A SURVEY?

Each survey will take approximately 10 minutes.

HOW WILL MY INFORMATION BE USED?

Your identity and the school's identity will remain entirely confidential. Your responses will not be shared with anyone at your school. Findings from this study will be used to identify what is helpful in reducing school violence, discipline differences, and to enhance the support available to youth. Results will be summarized in a way that will not identify you.

WILL I BE COMPENSATED FOR PARTICIPATING IN THIS STUDY?

For each survey you complete you will receive \$10 on a pre-paid debit card.

WHO SHOULD I CONTACT IF I HAVE QUESTIONS?

For additional information, please call Link for Equity at 763-340-6638 or by email at LinkForEquity@umn.edu. For a contact within your school, please contact [insert name] at [phone number and/or email].