

Focus Project Consent Form

Introduction: Welcome to the Focus Project. The State Youth Treatment – Implementation grant/Families in Focus project is a three-year Iowa Department of Public Health (IDPH) project funded by a grant from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration Center for Substance Abuse Treatment (SAMHSA/CSAT).

The goal of the Focus Project is to improve treatment for adolescents and transitional age youth through the development of a learning environment. Involvement is strictly voluntary. Services could include assessment, urinalysis testing, family centered services, recovery services, and communication with your recovery team.

Information from the Focus Project will help local, state, and federal providers and funding authorities improve the way services are delivered for individuals with a possible substance abuse/misuse issue or mental health concern.

We are asking you to answer a series of questions. You may feel uncomfortable answering some of these questions. If you are uncomfortable with any of the questions, you do not have to answer them.

Benefits: You may feel better after talking with your recovery therapist and team. In addition, your participation may benefit others by helping us find out whether receiving certain services helps decrease problems related to use of alcohol, tobacco or other drugs. The Focus Project may assist you in paying for services.

Information you will receive from the Focus Project: Individuals ages 12-17 participating in this project will be asked to complete an assessment called the Comprehensive Addiction Severity Index (CASI). Individuals ages 18-25 will be asked to complete an IDPH approved assessment. You will be asked to answer a series of questions in these assessments. You may feel uncomfortable answering some of these questions. If you are uncomfortable with any of the questions, you do not have to answer them. You will receive verbal communication about your assessment score and a staff member will discuss the program and, if you consent, will discuss with you options available in the program. You will also receive written materials about available community resources and services.

Data Interviews: If you consent to participate in the Focus Project, you will be asked to take part in **three GPRA data interviews** that take 15 to 45 minutes each; one at admission, one at 6 months and one at discharge from the program. GPRA (Government Performance Results Act) interviews ask questions about alcohol and drug use, education and employment, family and living conditions, involvement in the criminal justice system, and participation in social support and recovery groups. This data will be used to monitor your involvement and potential benefit received. The data is confidential and will not identify you by name. You will receive a \$30 dollar gift card for completing the GPRA Follow-up interview. If it is discovered that you're residing in a restricted setting at any point in the interview process, by signing this consent you grant your Focus Project staff the authorization to contact you, which may include disclosure to the facility at which you reside of your involvement in a federal grant project.

Release of Information: As part of your involvement in the Focus Project, you are authorizing contact between IDPH, SAMHSA, Iowa Consortium for Substance Abuse Research, the University of Miami (MDFT), MET/CBT Plus, System Measures Incorporated (CASI), and the involved site location staff where you're receiving services, to obtain information necessary for the Focus Project management. This may include, but is not limited to, assessments, interviews, information related to fiscal reporting, quality improvement, client progress, and data collection. By signing this form you are authorizing release of information between you, IDPH, SAMHSA, The Iowa Consortium for Substance Abuse Research, the University of Miami (MDFT), System Measures Incorporated (CASI), and the staff at the location you are seeking services. You may revoke your release of information at any time except to the extent that action has already been taken.

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The Focus Project is voluntary: You can refuse to participate in the Focus Project or leave at any time. Refusal to participate in the Focus Project will not affect any current or future services you receive at the site location. You may refuse to answer certain questions and still participate in the Focus Project. If you refuse to answer a question, no one associated with the Focus Project will seek the information you did not provide from some other source. If you participate in the Focus Project and later choose not to participate, information you already have given will remain in the project.

Risks and Confidentiality: IDPH and the Focus Project staff take the privacy of your information seriously. The Focus Project staff, IDPH, the Iowa Consortium for Substance Abuse Research, the University of Miami (MDFT), MET/CBT Plus, System Measures Incorporated (CASI), and SAMHSA must comply with confidentiality and protected health information requirements as set forth in Federal and State Confidentiality Regulations (42 CFR, Part 2, and the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA), 45 CRF, 160 & 164). Your records are protected and cannot be disclosed without your written consent. Because the Focus Project involves coordination of services you want, providers will ask you to sign a release of information to allow them to talk with other providers. You may revoke your release of information at any time except to the extent that action has already been taken. Generally, a program may not condition your services on whether you sign a release of information, however, in the special circumstances of the voluntary the Focus Project; you cannot participate if you do not sign the Voluntary Consent Form. There are no foreseeable physical, medical, psychological, or legal risks involved in this project.

A unique identification number will be assigned to you as a Focus Project participant. Authorized representatives from IDPH, Iowa Consortium for Substance Abuse Research, the University of Miami (MDFT), MET/CBT Plus and the System Measures Incorporated (CASI), may have access to records that identify you by name. Any information you provide that is part of aggregate data given to SAMHSA will not include your name or other identifying data. If any publications or presentations result from the Focus Project, you will not be identified.

Client Rights: You have the right to:

- appropriate and considerate care and protection
- recognition and consideration of your cultural and spiritual values
- be told of all available Focus Project covered services and providers
- refuse a recommended service or plan of care
- review records and information about your services
- expect providers, IDPH, the University of Miami (MDFT), MET/CBT Plus, System Measures Incorporated (CASI), the Iowa Consortium for Substance Abuse Research, and SAMHSA to keep all communications and records confidential

Questions: If you have questions or concerns about the Focus Project, contact IDPH at 1-866-923-1085.

I have received, read, and understand the Focus Project - Voluntary Consent Form and all its contents. I agree to the conditions outlined above and choose to participate in the Focus Project.

Client Signature: _____

Date: _____

Legal Guardian: _____

Date: _____

Provider / Witness Signature: _____

Date: _____