

## **Families Assisting In Community Treatment and Rehabilitation**

### **INFORMED CONSENT FOR PARTICIPATION IN RESEARCH ACTIVITIES**

**Project Directors: Dr. Kraig Knudsen**  
**George Warren Brown School of Social Work, Washington University**

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#### **Description of Research and Participation**

You are invited to participate in a research study conducted by Kraig Knudsen, Ph.D of the Center for Mental Health Services Research at Washington University in Saint Louis. The overall purpose of this research is to better understand what you do to help your relative with mental illness in their mental health treatment. Your participation will involve participating in a focus group on one occasion. The amount of time required for your participation will be 90 minutes and refreshments and food will be provided in appreciation for your time.

#### **Risks and Benefits**

There are no known risks associated with participating in this study. Although the focus group will provide you an opportunity to reflect on your experiences with caring for a relative with mental illness, there are no tangible benefits associated with this study.

#### **Voluntary Participation**

Your participation is entirely voluntary and you may choose not to participate in this research study or withdraw your consent at any time. You will not be penalized in any way should you choose not to participate or withdraw. Your decision to take part in this study will not have any consequence on your membership in your organization or with your family member.

#### **Protection of Confidentiality**

We will do everything we can to protect your privacy. No unique identifiers are being recorded for the purposes of this study. Your identity will not be revealed in any publication that may result from this study. In rare instances, a researcher's study must undergo an audit or program evaluation by an oversight agency (such as the Office for Human Research Protection) that would lead to disclosure of your data as well as any other information collected by the researcher. If this were to occur, such information would only be used to determine whether the researcher conducted this study properly and adequately protected your rights as a human research participant. Importantly, any and all auditing agencies would maintain the confidentiality of any information reviewed by their office(s).

#### **Contact Information**

If you have any questions or concerns regarding this study, or if any problems arise, please contact Kraig Knudsen, Ph.D. at (314) 935-8140. If you have questions or concerns about your rights as a research participant, or other concerns about your participation in this research project, please contact GERALYN FISHER in the Hilltop Human Studies Committee office at (314) 935-8698.