Evaluating Youth Programs – Youth Invitation Letter

Dear Young Person:

Your youth program has been selected to participate in an evaluation of these programs and others. The purpose of the evaluation project is to document the effectiveness of youth programs.

The goal of this project has been to enhance developmental opportunities for youth. Targeted opportunities have included safe and inviting out-of-school youth activities and opportunities to build important life skills.

Your voluntary participation in this evaluation study offers organizers the opportunity to determine the skills learned and get a better understanding of how effective the program was. Our study will collect information to see how well the program works in addressing such issues as safety, communication between young people and adults and other key program qualities.

- You can decide if you want to participate or not. You can also refuse to answer any of the questions or withdraw at any time.
- If you participate, you will take part in two 30-minute surveys—one to provide us with an understanding of your current experiences with this program and a second survey at the conclusion of the program.
- The survey questions ask about how the program worked (for example, did adults listen to the young people, were they allowed to make decisions within the program, did they feel safe).
- No names or identifying information will be collected on these surveys, nor will there be any identifying information in the report. We want to protect your privacy.
- The survey responses will be entered either directly by you into an online survey, or (if you take the complete the paper/pencil survey) by a researcher at the University of Arizona where analyses will be done.
- There are no known risks or direct benefits to those who participate in this evaluation project.
- There is no compensation for participation.

If you do not wish to participate in this evaluation study please let your youth worker know.

If you may want to learn more about this project please call Lynne M. Borden at (520) 621-3399. Or write to her at the University of Arizona, Family Studies and Human Development, P.O. Box 210033, Tucson, AZ, 85721-0033. Also, if you have any questions about your rights as a research participant, you can contact the Human Subjects Protection Program office at 520-626-0433.

Sincerely,

Lynne M. Borden, Ph.D.
Evaluation Director
Division of Family Studies & Human Development
The University of Arizona

APPROVED BY UNIVERSITY OF AZ IRB
THIS STAMP MUST APPEAR ON ALL DOCUMENTS USED TO CONSENT SUBJECTS.
DATE: 5/31/07 EXPIRATION: 5/31/07