

**Effective Date: March 7, 2025**

## **Privacy Policy and Terms & Conditions**

The Youth and Family Interview Team (YaFIT) at Rutgers University School of Social Work is committed to protecting the privacy of individuals who participate in our research efforts. This Privacy Policy outlines the types of personal information we collect, how we use it, and the steps we take to ensure its protection.

### **1. Information We Collect**

We collect personal information to facilitate interviews with youth and families connected to the New Jersey Division of Child Protection and Permanency (DCP&P). The information we collect may include:

- Name
- Contact information (phone number, email)
- Scheduling preferences
- Information related to participation compensation (e.g., gift card distribution)
- We do not collect sensitive information such as Social Security numbers, financial data, or health records.

### **2. How We Use Personal Information**

The information we collect through SMS is used solely for research and interview-related purposes, including:

- Recruiting participants for interviews
- Scheduling interviews and sending reminders
- Sending follow-up messages regarding participation compensation

We do not use personal information for marketing or commercial purposes.

### **3. How We Protect Your Information**

We take the following measures to protect your personal information:

- Secure data storage and access control measures
- Limiting access to authorized personnel only
- Compliance with Rutgers University Institutional Review Board data security policies

We do not sell, trade, or rent personal information to third parties.

### **4. SMS Communications Terms & Conditions**

By opting into SMS messages from YaFIT, you agree to receive text messages regarding:

- Interview scheduling and reminders
- Updates on gift card compensation
- Other research-related notifications

Your SMS consent is not shared with third parties for marketing purposes.

Message frequency may vary. Message and data rates may apply. To opt out of SMS at any time, reply STOP to any message.

For assistance, text HELP or contact us at [yafit@ssw.rutgers.edu](mailto:yafit@ssw.rutgers.edu).

## **5. Your Rights and Choices**

You have the right to:

- Request access to the personal information we have about you.
- Request corrections to your information.
- Withdraw from participation at any time.

To make a request, please contact us at [yafit@ssw.rutgers.edu](mailto:yafit@ssw.rutgers.edu).

## **6. Updates to This Policy**

We may update this Privacy Policy periodically. Any changes will be posted on this page with an updated effective date.

## **7. Contact Information**

If you have any questions or concerns about this Privacy Policy, please contact the Principal Investigator: Cory Morton, School of Social Work, [cmorton@ssw.rutgers.edu](mailto:cmorton@ssw.rutgers.edu), (917) 952-5760.

Visit [Website URL] for the latest version of this Privacy Policy.