

Dear Esteemed Faith-based or Behavioral Health Leader(s),

Dr. Dawn Tyus and Dr. Holly Hagle wanted to reach out to invite you to participate in an exciting nine-month educational learning collaborative (LC) research study. This is a collaboration with Morehouse School of Medicine, Southeast Addiction Technology Transfer Center, the African American Behavioral Health Center of Excellence, and the University of Missouri – Kansas City. Due to the community that you serve, we know that you will be a great asset to this research study and assist us as we expand the behavioral health knowledge of faith leaders. Here is some additional information.

STUDY PURPOSE: To increase faith-based leaders (FBLs) knowledge of substance use and substance use disorders and to assess FBLs perceptions of engaging with Behavioral Health Providers (BHPs) by implementing an existing LC curriculum. This pilot exploratory study will pave the way for future initiatives focused on increasing SUD care in underserved Black communities through collaborations between FBLs and BHPs and deepen our understanding of the communities in which the FBLs reside.

You are being invited to be in this study because you are in:

- Reside in the same geographic zip code as FBLs that are participating in their LC
- Provides services to adults (18+).

WHAT ARE THE COSTS TO YOU? - There is no cost to you to be in this research study.

WHAT ABOUT COMPENSATION? - Participating BHPs will be compensated for the participation in this study. Compensation will be in accordance with the IRB of record's policies and procedures, and subject to IRB approval. Participating church/congregations and BHPs will receive a thank you stipend for up to \$1,000 for participating in the six- month LC.

Participating churches/congregations and BHPs will be compensated for the participation in this study. Participating church/congregations and BHPs will receive a thank you stipend \$1,000 for participating in the LC. The payment schedule will be as follows if participants complete each milestone:

- 1 – complete baseline survey, semi-structured interviews \$250
- 2 – complete the first 6 LCs \$250
- 3 – complete 6 more LCs \$250
- 4 – finish post-LC survey and post-LC semi-structured interviews final \$250.

In order to receive payment, you must complete a W-9 form. This form will gather your information for tax purposes and requires you to provide your SSN. The form will be immediately given to MU's office for use and will not be kept by the study team. Payment will be provided at the completion of each milestone. *If participants do not complete a stage of the study, they are not eligible for that compensation increment.* The study participants will be paid by

University of Missouri (MU) check. Checks will be mailed to the address provided by the study participant. Stipend checks will be made out to individual participants and will be mailed to the address that is provided to the study team.

TRAINING MODALITY – Participants will attend 6 virtual webinars 1-hour sessions with a subject-matter expert discussing a topic around behavioral health and/or substance use.

We hope that you will consider the importance of this study and the benefit that it will have for you and the communities that you serve. This enhanced behavioral health knowledge will allow you to be a catalyst for change and provide evidence-based information and promising practices to your congregants and communities.

If you are interested in confirming your participation, please [click this link](#) to confirm and register using an email address that you frequently check. Once you confirm your participation, you will receive additional information on the next steps.

If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to:

Dr. Dawn Tyus at dtyus@msm.edu Phone: (404) 752-1016

Dr. Holly Hagle at hagleh@umkc.edu Phone: (412)478-5429

Thank you for your consideration and please reach out with any questions!

Sincerely,

Dr. Holly Hagle | Dr. Dawn Tyus

NIDA CTN 0127