

The BH-Works Suicide Prevention Program for Sexual and Gender Minority Youth

NCT05922670

Staff and Administrator Participant
Consents

January 9, 2025

VIRGINIA POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE AND STATE UNIVERSITY

Consent to Take Part in a Research Study

Title of research study: The BH-Works Suicide Prevention Program (IRB Protocol # 22-079)

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Other study contact(s): This project is funded by the National Institute of Mental Health, award number 1R34MH129785

Key Information:

The following is a short summary of this study to help you decide whether or not to participate:

Background: The research team wants to better understand and support the mental needs of LGBTQ+ youth as well as the organizations who serve them. LGBTQ+ adolescents report far higher rates of suicidal ideation and attempts when compared to their heterosexual and cisgender peers (Bauer et al., 2015; Haas et al., 2011; Perez-Brummer et al., 2017; Toomey et al., 2018). As such, adoption of effective suicide prevention programs and referral networks in organizations serving this population could increase identification rates and access to mental health care.

This Study: The purpose of this study is to evaluate a suicide prevention and referral program called Behavioral Health-Works (BH-Works). This program involves training, screening, referral and follow-up. As part of this program, organizations serving LGBTQ+ youth will develop collaborations with partners from child & adolescent psychiatry departments in their local area. Providers within the collaborating child and adolescent psychiatry departments will receive training in affirmative care and suicide prevention together with their colleagues at LGBTQ+ organizations and serve as a referral resource.

Research participation: Administrators/staff participants from LGBTQ+ organizations and collaborating child & adolescent psychiatry departments will both facilitate the program and complete interviews/measures on their learning, program impressions, and recommendations for making the program stronger. Program facilitation involves receiving a 1.5 day training on affirmative care and suicide prevention practices, utilizing the study's BH-Works screening tool in youth-centered practice, documenting program-related interactions with youth and caregivers, and attending supervision meetings with the PI every other month. Administrator/staff research activities involve the following:

Completing six, 30-45-minute surveys, and two to three 60-90-minute interviews over the project period (through Aug 2026)

Though your organization may require you to participate in trainings/consultations as part of your work responsibilities, your participation in research assessments and interviews research is voluntary and you may discontinue your involvement at any time.

Why am I being invited to take part in a research study?

As an administrator/leader, and/or staff member with a participating LGBTQ+ organization or collaborating child & adolescent psychiatry department, you are invited to take part in this research.

Consent to Take Part in a Research Study

What should I know about being in a research study?

- Someone will explain this research study to you
- Whether or not you take part is up to you
- You can choose not to take part
- You can agree to take part and later change your mind
- Your decision will not be held against you
- You can ask all the questions you want before you decide

Why is this research being done?

The Behavioral Health-Works (BH-Works) suicide prevention program has been successfully used in schools, primary care, emergency rooms, college counseling centers, and mental health facilities (Diamond et al., 2017; Diamond et al., 2021; Fein et al., 2010). In this project, the study team will partner with LGBTQ+ organizations and collaborating departments of child & adolescent psychiatry to import an adapted version of program specifically for LGBTQ+ youth.

How long will the research last and what will I need to do?

Engaged administrators/staff will be asked to complete surveys/an interview before and after their training in summer 2024. Following the training, three more surveys will be conducted approximately every seven months through Aug 2026. One to two more interviews will also be conducted over this study period.

Interviews and surveys focus on knowledge, skills, and experience related to suicide assessment/prevention, affirmative practice, partnership development. Feedback on the BH-Works program will also be solicited.

Is there any way being in this study could be bad for me?

This study poses minimal risks for participants. There is a potential risk of breaking of confidentiality. The research project will use all available security procedures to limit this risk. Data from staff/provider assessments will be housed in HIPAA-compliant data storage at Virginia Tech. The PI (Russon) will not share identifiable interview or survey data with those investigators/research personnel within the participant's organization. Only aggregated data on administrator/staff participants (across all sites) will be shared with those outside of the Virginia Tech team.

More detailed information about the risks of this study can be found under **"Is there any way being in this study could be bad for me? (Detailed Risks)"**.

Will being in this study help me in any way?

There are no direct benefits to you from your taking part in this research; however, possible benefits to others include determining whether the BH-Works Suicide Prevention program is effective in the context of settings serving LGBTQ+ youth.

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What happens if I do not want to be in this research?

Participation in research is completely up to you. You can decide to participate or not to participate. As an administrator/staff member at a participating organization, you may still be involved in training activities, even if you decide not to complete the research questionnaires/interviews.

Detailed Information: The following is more detailed information about this study in addition to the information listed above.

Who can I talk to?

If you have questions, concerns, or complaints, or think the research has hurt you, talk to the research team PI: Jody Russon, 840 University City Boulevard Blacksburg, VA 24061 | 540-231-4235 | jrusson@vt.edu | Study Line: 267-388-1095

This research has been reviewed and approved by the Virginia Tech Institutional Review Board (IRB). You may communicate with them at 540-231-3732 or irb@vt.edu if:

- You have questions about your rights as a research subject
- Your questions, concerns, or complaints are not being answered by the research team
- You cannot reach the research team
- You want to talk to someone besides the research team to provide feedback about this research

How many people will be studied?

We expect to include 3-6 administrators/staff at each site of our four participating sites in Southwest Virginia and Philadelphia.

What happens if I say, yes, I want to be in this research?

Participating in this study means collaborating on the implementation of the BH-Works suicide prevention program at your site and completing questionnaires/interviews about the program, your experiences, and your learning. There will be six, 30-45-minute surveys, two to three 60-90-minute interviews over the project period (through Aug 2026). Questionnaires can be completed electronically or by paper and pencil. Interview will be conducted via HIPAA-compliant zoom and/or phone. Interviews will be audio-recorded, but not video recorded.

What happens if I say yes, but I change my mind later?

You can leave the research at any time, for any reason, and it will not be held against you. If you participate now, but decide you do not want to later, you may decide whether or not you would like your data removed from the study. If you do not want to keep your prior data as part of the study, please contact the investigator via email or in writing (information at the top of this form) to let the research team know that you would like your data removed from the study.

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Is there any way being in this study could be bad for me? (Detailed risks)

The risks to participants are minimal. Questions asked of you fall within the scope of typical quality assurance/improvement practices in health organizations. There is some minimal risks related to the potential for a breach of confidentiality. That is, if the Virginia Tech data management system is compromised, there is a chance your information could be accessed by those outside of the research team and other approved governing bodies. Virginia Tech and the PI have extensive policies and procedures in place to protect confidentiality; however, the potential for breaches does exist.

The following specifies information about types of risks associated with this research:

Physical: No more risks than those that are found in everyday life.

Psychological: No more risks than those that are found in everyday life.

Social: Potential for a breach of confidentiality.

Legal: No more risks than those that are found in everyday life.

Privacy: Potential for a breach of confidentiality.

Economic: No more risks than those that are found in everyday life.

All information we collect from you is kept confidential (private) unless you are an immediate danger to self or to others. As the researchers are mental health professionals, we need to make sure we report any child abuse or neglect to keep children safe. We also need to report the abuse of elders.

Additionally, research team members are also required by the university to report title IX issues, such as assault or harassment on college campuses.

What happens to the information collected for the research?

We will make every effort to limit the use and disclosure of your personal information and data to people who have a need to review this information. We cannot promise complete confidentiality as there are organizations outside of the study team that may inspect and copy your information. These include the Human Research Protection Program, and other authorized representatives of Virginia Tech, our data safety and monitoring board, and the National Institute of Mental Health.

A description of this research is available on <http://www.ClinicalTrials.gov>, as required by U.S. Law. This website will not include information that can identify you. At most, the website will include a summary of the results. You can search this website at any time.

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Can I be removed from the research without my OK?

The person in charge of the research study or the sponsor can remove you from the research study without your approval. If you are demonstrating notable distress while participating in the research, activities will immediately cease.

The investigator team will tell you about any new information that might affect your choice to stay in the research.

What else do I need to know?

This research study is being done by Virginia Tech in collaboration with Diversity Camp Inc., The Mazzoni Center, Thomas Jefferson University, and Carilion Clinic. This research is being supported by a grant from the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH).

Depending on your site, you may be given work time for completion of research questionnaires and interviews. Unless prohibited by your union or workplace policy, administrators/staff will be paid \$20.00 for the completion of each assessment and interview. Compensation will be paid in the form of an electronic Amazon gift card sent via email, within two weeks following participation. Participants will have 30 days to redeem (i.e., click to add the funds to their Amazon account). If the gift card is not redeemed within 30 days, it will no longer be available.

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Signature Block

Your signature documents your permission to take part in this research. A copy of this form can be made available to you upon request.

Signature of subject

Date

Printed name of subject