



## **CLINICIAN RECRUITMENT LETTER**

### **Parent and Family Engagement in School-Based Occupational Therapy Services**

Dr. Wenonah Campbell, Jennifer Kennedy, Dr. Cheryl Missiuna, Dr. Sandra Moll, and Dr. Jenny Yost.

#### **About our research project:**

This study is being done to increase our understanding of how parents participate and engage in children's school-based occupational therapy services and what factors impact their engagement. We also aim to understand how clinicians can better support families to engage, and what support clinicians need to do so.

In this study, we will interview 12-15 parents of children who have received school-based occupational therapy services in Ontario, and 5-6 occupational therapists who work in school support services.

#### **What will be asked of me if I take part in the study?**

If you choose to take part in this study, you will be asked to participate in an interview that will be from 1 to 1.5 hours and complete an information questionnaire. The interview will be audio-recorded and transcribed. The interviews will be completed face-to-face with individuals who are within an hour drive of McMaster University, or by telephone for individuals in other regions of Ontario. During the interview you will be asked questions about your experiences delivering school-based occupational therapy, building relationships with parents, and what factors influence parent engagement. We will also want to hear about how you think service providers and organizations can promote parent engagement in school-based services.

All participants will receive a \$25 gift card at the interview as thanks for their participation and insight. Parking or bus fare will also be covered.

#### **What do I do next?**

There are three options for you to choose from: (1) decline the invitation to participate, (2) contact Jennifer Kennedy (contact information below) to receive more information about participating in the study, and/or (3) share this study with parents by using the [Parent Information Sheet](#), and the [Clinician Script to Introduce Study to Parent Participants](#) included in this email/envelope.

We are happy to provide you with more information. **Please contact:** Jennifer Kennedy, PhD Candidate (905)-525-9140 ext. 26840 or [kennej5@mcmaster.ca](mailto:kennej5@mcmaster.ca). Contacting us does not mean you have to take part in the study – it just means you would like to know more!

*Thank you for your consideration of our study.*

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**PARENT INFORMATION SHEET**  
**Parent and Family Engagement in School-Based Occupational Therapy Services**

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All participants will receive a \$25 gift card at the interview as thanks for their participation and insight. Parking or bus fare will also be covered.

**What do I do next?**

There are two options for you to choose from: (1) decline the invitation to participate (you do not need to contact anyone), (2) contact Jennifer Kennedy (contact information below) to receive more information about participating in the study.

We are happy to provide you with more information. **Please contact:** Jennifer Kennedy, PhD Candidate (905)-525- 9140 ext. 26840 or [kennej5@mcmaster.ca](mailto:kennej5@mcmaster.ca). Contacting us does not mean you have to take part in the study – it just means you would like to know more!

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## **Clinician Script to Introduce the Study to Parent Participants (in person or by phone)**

### **Parent and Family Engagement in School Based Occupational Therapy Services**

“Jennifer Kennedy is a pediatric occupational therapist and a PhD candidate at McMaster University. She is wanting to learn more about how parents participate and engage in their child’s school-based occupational therapy services and how clinicians can better support parents and families. We hope that the information provided by parents will help organizations and clinicians to improve collaboration with parents and families.

The research team from McMaster University has asked that we provide parents with some basic information about the study:

- In this study, a researcher will complete a private interview with parents who have had a child participate in school-based occupational therapy services. We are looking for participation from approximately 15 families.
- A questionnaire about your family will be completed at the first interview. The interview will take between 60-90 minutes. During the interview you will be asked questions about your experiences with school-based occupational therapy services, about your family and about other factors that helped you to participate in your child’s services or made participation difficult. We will also ask about the ways you feel service providers and organizations can promote engagement in services that take place in the school setting.
- Choosing to participate, or deciding not to participate, will not affect your eligibility for future services in any way. The person who provided you with information about the study will not be told whether you participated. No extra clinical services will be provided as a part of this study. You can withdraw from the study at anytime.
- A \$25 gift card will be provided at the interview to thank you for your time. Parking or bus fare will also be reimbursed.

There are two options for you to choose from:

- (1) decline the invitation to participate,
- (2) contact Jennifer Kennedy (contact information below) to receive more information about participating in the study.

Jennifer would be happy to provide you with more information. **Please contact:** Jennifer Kennedy, PhD Candidate (905)-525- 9140 ext. 26840 or [kennej5@mcmaster.ca](mailto:kennej5@mcmaster.ca) if you are interested in learning more about the study. Contacting her does not mean you have to take part in the study – it just means you would like to know more!”

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