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Montreal, July 12th, 2016

SUBJECT: Mothers' Experiences during Their Child's Transition to Adolescence and Adulthood

Dear Parents.

I am the research coordinator for the Family Well-Being Project at Concordia University. The goal of the Family Well-Being project is to better understand the connections between parenting stress and emotional well-being, health, and marital quality among parents of children with special needs. We are currently working in collaboration with Autisme-Montréal to recruit parents for our studies.

I am writing to invite you to participate in a study on mother's experiences during their child's transitions to adolescence and adulthood. Specifically, we are looking for mothers of adolescents with an intellectual disability, Autism Spectrum Disorder, ADHD, and without special needs between the ages of 12 and 22 years old, who are in high school, or who graduated from high school within the last year. For this study, mothers will be asked to participate in 3 assessments over the course of a 2-year period. The first assessment will take place as soon as you are available, and subsequent visits will take place 12 and 24 months later.

During each assessment, you will be asked to complete online questionnaires about your experiences and your child's experiences during his or her transitions into adolescence and adulthood, participate in semi-structured interviews on these experiences, and undergo a health assessment to evaluate the impact of these experiences on your health. You will receive up to \$175 as compensation for your participation in this study. This study will promote the development of better services for families of children with special needs.

If you are interested in participating in this study, please contact us at (514) 848-2424 ext. 2206 or parents.fwb@concordia.ca.

Best,

Sarah Lantagne Research Coordinator Family Well-Being Project (514) 848-2424 ext. 2206 Parents.fwb@concordia.ca