#### RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION IN INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE RESEARCH INVOLVING YOUTH

**CTSI** Recruitment and Retention Roundtable

March 22, 2017

### Introductions



Empowering Youth. Ending Exploitation.

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## Learning Objectives

(1) Articulate ethical and logistical challenges that arise when recruiting and retaining research study participants on a dating abuse-related study.

(2) Describe existing procedures for longitudinal follow-up with youth participants in a dating abuse research study.

(3) Identify possible new methods for retaining so-called "hard to reach" youth in future longitudinal research studies.



"The term "intimate partner violence" describes physical violence, sexual violence, stalking and psychological aggression (including coercive acts) by a current or former intimate partner."

Breiding MJ, Basile KC, Smith SG, Black MC, Mahendra RR. Intimate Partner Violence Surveillance: Uniform Definitions and Recommended Data Elements, Version 2.0. Atlanta (GA): National Center for Injury Prevention and Control, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; 2015.

# Ethical Challenges for Recruitment and Retention

- Ensuring participant safety
- Protecting privacy and confidentiality
- Minimizing participant distress
- Mandatory reporting, SAE/AE
- Temptation to overstep role as a researcher

# Logistical Challenges for Recruitment and Retention

- Obtaining parent/guardian consent
- Lack of housing stability
- Lack of contact information
- Youth emotional stability
- Staff training

## **Existing Procedures for Follow-Up**

- Flexible staff
- Locator form
- Monthly contact checks
- Online surveys
- Home or in-person visits
- Consistent follow-up person
- Setting concrete follow-up times (even though they might miss it)
- Show the value that participants bring to the study
- Relatable, but don't be fake!
- Secondary trauma sessions for staff

#### New methods for hard-to-reach youth

Your turn!

### Thank you!

For more information, please contact Emily Rothman, ScD erothman@bu.edu