



Date: September 14, 2026

TO: All Families and Caregivers

Re: Louisiana Caring Communities Youth Survey

During the period of November 30th through December 18th, **students in grades 6, 8, 10, and 12** will be taking part in an important survey on substance abuse, school dropout, delinquency, and violence. The survey is called the **Louisiana Caring Communities Youth Survey**.

The survey aims to gather information needed to plan prevention and intervention programs in our community and schools. These programs will address problems of alcohol, tobacco, and other drug use, school dropout, delinquency, and violence in our schools and communities. The information will also help assess the effectiveness of current prevention and intervention efforts. Here is a [copy of the survey](#). More information can be found on this website: [CCYS Reports | Department of Counseling](#)

The survey is entirely anonymous and confidential. All results from the survey will be presented only in group summary form, like many opinion polls.

The survey asks questions about behaviors students or students' friends may or may not have done. For the survey, students will be asked to respond to questions such as "How wrong do you think it is for someone your age to pick a fight with someone at school?" "Which of the following activities for people your age are available in your community?" "On how many occasions (if any) have you used marijuana in the past 30 days" "If you skipped school, would you be caught by your parents?"

Your child's participation in the survey is completely voluntary. Each child will be given the option of leaving blank any question that he or she prefers not to answer. You may decline to have your child participate if you wish. Please remember this survey offers your child the opportunity to share his or her confidential opinions on very important issues being faced by our youth today. If you do decline, your son or daughter will be allowed to read or participate in some other alternative activity while his or her classmates are taking the survey.

The survey is being conducted by The University of Louisiana Lafayette under contract with The Louisiana Office of Behavioral Health (OBH). The Bach-Harrison project director for this survey is Makenna Allred at Bach Harrison (makenna@bach-harrison.com) or 801-791-7746). Please feel free to contact her or Dr. Ray Biggar (ray.biggar@louisiana.edu) if you have any questions regarding the survey.

Please let your child's school know only if you do not wish your son or daughter to participate in the survey. Please sign and return this form if you do not want your child to participate in the CCYS survey.

OPT OUT FORM - Return to the school to opt your child out of this survey.

I wish to opt my child out of participating in the **Caring Communities Youth Survey** this year. By signing this form, my child will not participate in the Strengths & Needs Screener.

Parent / Caregiver Signature

Name of Student

Date