

# **Semi-Structured Interview Schedule**

## **Tow Youth Justice Institute**

### **“A Qualitative Analysis of School-Based Diversion in Connecticut”**

#### **Welcome Statement (~3 minutes)**

1. Hello. Can I please speak with [First Name, Last Name]?
2. My name is [Your Name], I am a [Your Role] at the Tow Youth Justice Institute at the University of New Haven. Your information was provided to me by a member of the JJPOC Diversion Workgroup’s subgroup on school-based diversion. I am interested in asking you a few questions related to your knowledge of school and community-based diversion. The conversations should take about 20 minutes. Would that be ok with you?
3. If yes, CONTINUE. If no, END CONVERSATION.
4. Before we begin, is it okay for me to record our conversation? Your responses will remain confidential and will be used to form a definition of school-based diversion. If you would like more information about how your responses will be used, I can connect you to our Research Director, Dr. Danielle Cooper after we have completed our conversation. \*Note if participant would like to be connected to Dr. Cooper on the "Interview Questions" form.
5. If yes, KEEP RECORDING. If no, STOP RECORDING BY ENDING THE ZOOM MEETING and end conversation.
6. Thank you agreeing to participate. You can refuse to answer any question that you do not feel comfortable responding to during the interview.
7. Are you ready to begin?

**TRANSITION:** FIRST, I WILL ASK ABOUT YOUR ORGANIZATION AND YOUR ROLE THERE.

#### **Introduction (~1 minute)**

1. What is the name of the organization that you work for?
2. Where is your organization located?
3. Tell me about your role within your organization?
  - a. *Follow up:* How long have you served in this role?

**TRANSITION:** THE NEXT SET OF QUESTIONS ARE ABOUT YOUR UNDERSTANDING OF DIVERSION AND ANY PROGRAMMING OR INTERVENTIONS YOU KNOW ABOUT. PLEASE ANSWER EACH QUESTION TO THE BEST OF YOUR ABILITY.

**School-Based Diversion Questions (~14 minutes)**

1. What is diversion?
  - a. *Clarification:* Is diversion a mindset, programming, or something else?
  - b. *Sub-question:* The dictionary defines diversion as “the act or an instance of diverting or straying from a course, activity, or use.” What course, activity or use would you say diversion is diverting or straying from?
2. What is school-based diversion?
  - a. *Clarification:* Is school-based diversion different from diversion?
  - b. *Clarification:* Who is the target of school-based diversion?
  - c. *Clarification:* What is school-based diversion diverting from?
  - d. *Clarification:* Does school-based diversion have to occur on school property?
  - e. *Clarification:* Does school-based diversion have to occur during the school day?
  - f. *Clarification:* Does school-based diversion include only students of the school?
  - g. *Clarification:* Does school-based diversion apply to a student’s commute to and from school?
  - h. *Clarification:* How do we know that school-based diversion is successful?
3. What programs or practices in Connecticut qualify as school-based diversion?
4. Is there anything else you would like to say about school-based diversion?

**Community-Based Diversion**

1. What is community-based diversion?
  - a. *Clarification:* Is community-based diversion *similar to* school-based diversion? If yes, how so?
  - b. *Clarification:* Is community-based diversion *different from* school-based diversion? If yes, how so?
  - c. *Clarification:* Who is the target of community-based diversion?
  - d. *Clarification:* What is community-based diversion diverting from?

- e. *Clarification:* How do we know if community-based diversion is successful?
  - f. *Clarification:* In what settings does community-based diversion occur?
  - g. *Clarification:* Who is responsible for community-based diversion?
2. What programs or practices in Connecticut qualify as community-based diversion?
  3. Is there anything else you would like to say about community-based diversion?

**Closing Statement (~2 minute)**

1. We have made it to the end of my questions for this interview.
2. Thank you very much for taking the time to provide me with your insight about school-based diversion in Connecticut.
3. Do you have any question or comments before we conclude our call today?
4. Thank you again for your time and your input on this important topic.