Dear Professional School Counselor:

This communication is to request your participation in a dissertation research project titled **CACREPs Relevance to Effective Implementation of Comprehensive School Counseling Programs.** This study is being conducted by me, Cynthia L. Taylor, a doctoral student in the Counselor Education and Supervision program at Walden University. This form is part of a process called "informed consent" to allow you to understand this study before deciding whether to take part.

Professional school counselors with a master's degree in school counseling who graduated from their school counseling program in 2003 or later and are currently employed as school counselors are the intended sample.

The purpose of this study is to utilize the School Counseling Implementation Survey to gather information regarding school counselors' perceptions of implementing comprehensive school counseling programs. In this study, the population will be limited to examining the perceptions of school counselors as a sample. The data collected will be used to examine school counselors' perceptions of implementing comprehensive school counseling programs. The survey will take approximately 10 minutes of your time.

If you agree to be in this study, you will be asked to:

- Review this form in its entirety
- Click on the survey link and consent to participate
- Answer 2 demographic questions:
 - Did you graduate from your masters in school counseling program in 2003 or later?
 - Was your school counseling program CACREP accredited at the time of your graduation?
- Complete a one-time 20 item questionnaire that will take approximately 10 minutes
- Submit the completed questionnaire

Below are two sample questions of interest, with responses based on a 4-point Likert scale ranging from 1 (not present) to 4 (fully implemented):

- School counselors use student performance data to decide how to meet student needs.
- An annual review is conducted to get information for improving next year's programs

Participation in this study is voluntary; there is no consequence for discontinuing from the study at any time, the alternative would be not to participate. If you choose to forego participation or discontinue at any time, your decision will be respected. The risks associated with this study are determined to be minimal and may include minor discomfort that can be encountered in daily life, such as fatigue, stress, or becoming emotional about the topic. The data collected will be anonymous, therefore no identifying link to questionnaires will be established. There is no compensation associated with this study. The data collected may potentially help expand the literature base on the professional accountability of school counselors and counselor educators. In order to participate in the study, you may click the link below. Each question must be answered in order to progress forward within the questionnaire; if there are questions that you do not want to answer, you may discontinue at any time. If you are not directed to the link immediately, you may also cut and paste the link into a web browser. Consent is indicated through participation, completion, and submission of the questionnaire.

Walden University's approval number for this study is 12-18-15-0275499 and it expires on December 17, 2016. I have no known conflicts of interest to disclose at this time. Please print or save this consent form for your records. For more information please contact the principal investigator, Cynthia L. Taylor (cynthia.taylor6@waldenu.edu), or my dissertation chair, Dr. Shelley Jackson (shelley.jackson@waldenu.edu). If you have any questions about your rights as a participant, please contact a Walden University representative at (irb@waldenu.edu).

Thank you in advance for your participation,

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