THE CREATION AND APPLICATION OF
AN EVALUATION PROCESS
FOR A TEEN SHELTER

By

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Thesis submitted to the Faculty of the
Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University
In partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of

MASTERS OF SCIENCE

In

Human Development

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September 1, 1999
Blacksburg, Virginia

Keywords: Evaluation, At-Risk Adolescents, Shelter, Qualitative Study

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(ABSTRACT)

This study examines a collaborative creation and application of an evaluation process for a teen shelter. An independent researcher collaborated with the key administrators of a teen shelter to create an agency-specific evaluation process that gathered both quantitative and qualitative data from three separate participant groups: teen clients of the shelter, their parents, and the staff who work at the shelter.

Results of the creation process indicate that collaborating with key administrators is imperative when developing agency-specific evaluations with the goal of program improvement. Application results indicate that the clients and staff at this particular shelter felt the program was very helpful. Responses included participants’ ideas as to what was helpful and what aspects of the program made the experience beneficial. Participants offered positive feedback about the effective aspects of the program, as well as suggestions for improving some weaker aspects of the program. Shelter administrators were pleased with the evaluation process and results and were enthusiastic about applying the results toward program improvement.
To my husband—in-one-week, Tom, for loving me since I was just a girl. You have helped me grow into the woman I have become. Your enthusiasm and support of my goals has helped make this dream a reality.

And to Kirsten, for making my graduate school experience a life-changing event. You have been there for me in ways I never imagined possible.
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Working on this thesis has been a highly collaborative process. Both professionally and personally, many people have helped me during the long and arduous process.

I first want to thank my advisor, Karen Rosen. She has been an amazing source of support, encouragement and frustration. She spent many long hours editing my text, whisking that bright red pen with intense deliberation across hundreds of pages. She made sure the final product was a quality one, and never settled for less than what she knew I could deliver. She has been there with hugs and words of encouragement when the going got tough, and with sincere praise when we managed to pull this off. She has been a mother, a cheerleader, and a friend. Karen, I am truly grateful for the time I got to spend with you.

I also want to thank Sandra Stith, Eric McCollum, Jean Coleman, Karen Rosen, and Ed Hendrickson for making my three years with Virginia Tech one of the best experiences of my life. You have each taught me the craft of therapy, each in a way that complimented and enriched the other. You have also each helped me through hard times, and taught me not only about yourselves, but about myself as well. I would not trade the time I spent with you for anything. You all have been excellent professors, of therapy and of life. And Eric, thank you for being a gracious victim of many practical jokes.

The process of creating and implementing an evaluation process is difficult and complex. I want to thank the administrators of Alternative House: David Grant, Peggy Easley, Judith Moore, Marc Baskin, Gina Capella, and Samir El-Sayed for their hard work and support throughout this project. I’d like to thank the staff for their participation both as distributors of the questionnaires, and as those supplying us with feedback. I’d also like to thank the clients of the shelter for so generously sharing their experiences with us.

My family deserves recognition for their integral part of making me the woman and scholar I am today. I would like to thank Doug, Sugar, Shannon and Shawn Lake, as well as the entire Riley family for their support and encouragement of both my personal and professional endeavors.
I must acknowledge Doug Smith, Steve Rader, and Phil Skomra for the computer help I was continually begging for. Thank you all for saving my proverbial butt more than once. And I must apologize for all of the tearful voice mails...you know me, it’s always high drama.

And finally, to the best group of friends I have ever had. Aaron Dodini, Laurie Howell, Tracy Kellum, Deanna Linville, Lisa Locke, Elise Long, Kristen Lundberg, Kirsten Lundeberg, Russell Lundeberg, Caroline Martin, Crysta Mascovitz, Eleni Paris, Doug Smith, Alexis Taber, and Michelle Ward: I love you guys! Thank you for loving me so fully and letting me love you back so radically. I am a better person for having known you all. And I have never had more fun in all my days. There have been a few of you who have been the kind of friend a person never recovers from. You have become a permanent mark on my heart. I will miss you more than you know.
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