

Study Title: **Care givers and Challenges with Special Educational Needs (SEN)**

Researcher:

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PURPOSE

I seek to understand the challenges faced by people providing the frontline care for children with these special educational needs (SENs). This includes parents, educators, occupational, speech and language therapists, social workers, doctors, and behavioral clinicians. The research seeks to find the common pinch points faced by these frontline caregivers especially now during the COVID-19 pandemic.

METHODOLOGY:

Participation in the study will consist of a short **10–30-minutes** interview at a mutually agreed upon date and time. Interviews will be conducted over the phone. Questions will be focused on your experience finding or providing support for children with SENs.

YOUR RIGHTS:

- ✓ **Anonymity:** Although we will be discussing your experiences with regards to providing support for children with SENs, all information captured will be anonymized that neither your nor the child's identity will be linked to any specific information. The research is qualitative and geared towards understanding commonalities and patterns in a large sample of interviews. No personal information such as names, date of birth, gender, or contact details will be shared.
- ✓ **Risks:** There are no known or anticipated risks involved in participating in this study. Your participation is strictly voluntary and if at any point during the interview, you feel uncomfortable you may decline to answer a question or continue with the interview.
- ✓ **Transcription:** With your permission, the interview will be recorded to allow for accurate transcription and analysis. If you prefer, I can take notes instead of recording our conversation.

Your participation is greatly appreciated as your experiences, expertise, insights will be invaluable to this research.

If you have any questions regarding this study or would like additional information to assist you in reaching a decision about participation, please contact me (**May Alonge**).

Thanks so much for considering my request for help.