

# Short-Term Crisis Residential Beds Initiative Police Questionnaire

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## About This Survey

Power Analysis has been hired by ConnexOntario to conduct a review of the **Short-Term Crisis Residential Beds (“Safe Beds”) Initiative**. The purposes of the study are to learn what is working in the initiative and what might be done to make the short term residential beds more effective.

The Safe Beds Initiative provides temporary emergency housing for persons with mental illness who have come into conflict with the law, whose offense is considered low risk and whose mental illness can be appropriately managed through services based in the community. The beds are in a residential setting with supportive counseling to provide stabilization. Police may use the service as an alternative to custody when dealing with people in need of non-medical crisis intervention. They may bring the person directly to the agency or access the service through a mobile crisis team.

Given that the primary goal of the program is to divert individuals with mental illness from the criminal justice system to the mental health system, the police perspective is critical for a complete evaluation of the program. We ask you to complete this questionnaire; it will take only a few minutes. The information you provide will be reported in aggregate only; your organization will not be identified in any report.

Please complete the survey by September 30, 2008, *save the file* and attach it to an email to Power Analysis ([poweranalysis@rogers.com](mailto:poweranalysis@rogers.com)), or fax it to: (519) 473-3130. Please keep a completed copy on your computer in case the survey does not get to us and we need to ask you to resend it.

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The questions are easy to answer and ask you to:

CLICK ON THE BOX NEXT TO YOUR ANSWER

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1	Yes
<input type="checkbox"/>	2	No

or PROVIDE A BRIEF WRITTEN ANSWER

We use safe beds in Toronto

Note: If you have already selected a response and you want to change it, click on the original response in order to delete the x (if both options have an x we cannot determine the preferred response).

Thank you for your help.

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1. What is the name of your police service?
  
2. What geographical area do you police? *(Click on grey box and type)*
  
3. Are there crisis safe beds in your area?

- <sub>1</sub> YES → What agency operates the safe beds?
- <sub>2</sub> NO → Skip to Question 13
- <sub>3</sub> DON'T KNOW → Skip to Question 13

4. Does your police force use the safe beds for persons in a mental health crisis?

- <sub>1</sub> YES
- <sub>2</sub> NO → Why not?

5. Are the safe beds typically available when the police need them?

- <sub>1</sub> YES
- <sub>2</sub> NO

6. How helpful is the safe beds program as an option for persons in a mental health crisis who have been detained by the police?

- <sub>1</sub> VERY HELPFUL
- <sub>2</sub> SOMEWHAT HELPFUL
- <sub>3</sub> NOT AT ALL HELPFUL → Why?

7. On the scale below please indicate the extent to which the safe beds program has helped to reduce the amount of time police officers spend dealing with persons in a mental health crisis.

Not at all To a great extent

<sub>1</sub>-----<sub>2</sub>-----<sub>3</sub>-----<sub>4</sub>-----<sub>5</sub>-----<sub>6</sub>-----<sub>7</sub>

8. On the scale below please indicate the extent to which the safe beds program has helped to reduce the amount of time police officers spend *in hospital emergency departments* dealing with persons in a mental health crisis.

Not at all To a great extent  
1-----2-----3-----4-----5-----6-----7

9. On the scale below please indicate the extent to which the safe beds program has helped to reduce the amount of time persons in a mental health crisis spend in jail or remand centres.

Not at all To a great extent  
1-----2-----3-----4-----5-----6-----7

10. What do you like best about the safe beds program?

11. What do you like least about the safe beds program?

12. What improvements do you suggest for the safe beds program to make it more helpful to the police?

13. *If your area does not currently have any safe beds* please indicate whether they would be helpful to the police and in what scenarios.

***Thank you! Please save this file and attach it to a return email to:***  
***[poweranalysis@rogers.com](mailto:poweranalysis@rogers.com)***