Appendix A: Interview Protocol

Opening

Purpose of the research

Adolescents growing up in poverty are at a higher risk of mental health issues, such as depression, anxiety, loneliness, and behavioral problems, compared to their peers who are not in such circumstances. This can be due to various risk factors, such as financial stress, social exclusion, or unsafe neighborhoods. These risk factors influence each other. Additionally, there are protective factors that can shield these adolescents from developing mental health problems. In this project, we work together with adolescents, parents, professionals, and policymakers to explore how these factors interact and how we can prevent and reduce mental health issues in adolescents (aged 12 to 25) living in poverty. This interview study is part of that project. Through this study, we aim to investigate which organizations and individuals influence the interplay of these factors and how these organizations and individuals collaborate.

Explanation of the interview

For this, we use a method that visualizes your collaborations within the network by creating a network map. We begin by mapping the formal and informal organizations you collaborate with on these themes, and you note these organizations on post-its. Then, you draw lines from yourself to these organizations to map the nature of the collaboration. Afterward, we use tokens to indicate the intensity of your collaboration with these organizations and discuss what drives these interactions, including facilitating and hindering factors. We conclude with a question about potential improvements you would like to see in the collaborations. The interview will last a maximum of 1,5 hours.

Informed consent information

All collected data is confidential. The content of the interview will not be traceable to you personally. Your name will never be linked to the content of the discussions. What is said will be used and shared anonymously. Participation is voluntary, so you can always indicate if you want to quit, even during or after the interview. You also do not have to answer every question if you do not wish to. If you

decide to quit, the data collected up to that point can be deleted. However, certain data may no longer be deleted if it has already been anonymized and is no longer traceable to any individual. Additionally, we would like to include your role and organization in a report or article to provide insights into the structure of the network. This information will not be linked to your name, and we will use general descriptions to ensure it cannot be traced back to you as an individual. If you agree, please sign the informed consent form. Do you have any questions before we begin?

Questions

1. **Can you tell us more about your role, what you focus on, and what your responsibilities are?**
    a. What is the central goal of the organization you work for?
    b. What does your contact with adolescents look like? Can you describe a typical interaction with an adolescent?
    c. To what extent does poverty among adolescents play a role in your work? What poverty-related issues among adolescents do you often encounter in your work? How does your organization define poverty?
    d. To what extent does mental health among adolescents play a role in your work? What mental health problems among adolescents do you often encounter in your work? How does your organization define mental health?
    e. How often do you encounter adolescents who experience both poverty and mental health issues? Can you provide an example of such a case? [Select one good case or, if necessary, present one for discussion.]
    f. What connections do you see in your work between poverty and mental health among adolescents?
2. **Which organizations do you collaborate with when working with an adolescent dealing with both mental health and poverty-related issues?** *[We define collaboration very broadly. It can range from less intensive forms of collaboration, such as seeking information or advice, attending a network meeting, informal consultations, referrals, or passing along*

signals, to more intensive forms of collaboration, such as multidisciplinary meetings, funding, or setting up joint programs. Organizations can also be understood broadly, including formal and informal parties and individuals, local, regional, or national.]

3. **Can you tell us about what your collaboration with organization X looks?**
    a. On what types of issues do you collaborate? Can you provide a concrete example or case?
    b. What does your collaboration entail? Can you provide a concrete example or case? *[e.g., applying for funding, acting as a client, exchanging information, giving advice, making referrals, bringing people together, holding meetings, organizing activities, or taking a coordinating role.]*
    c. Does this organization also reach out to you? What do they contact you about?
    d. How is this collaboration going? What works well? What works less well?
4. **Why does collaboration with some organizations work well, while with others it is less successful?**
    a. What causes this? *[Follow up on individuals who serve as bridge figures and the resources used to overcome barriers]*
    b. What makes collaboration easy or difficult?
    c. What are the success factors in collaboration?
    d. What could improve the collaboration?
5. **Are there people or organizations you would like to collaborate with differently or more intensively to improve the mental health of adolescents living in poverty? Or would you like to collaborate with organizations not yet included in the network?**
    a. In what situations could this collaboration be important for you?
    b. What should this collaboration look like to be useful for you?
    c. What is currently preventing this collaboration?
    d. I mentioned in my introduction that we are also interested in collaboration with the informal network. I've mostly heard you talk about collaboration with professional organizations. Is that correct? Or do you also collaborate with informal partners?

6. **We have now mapped the organizations you collaborate with intensively. You also indicated some organizations with which you collaborate less intensively. Do you have any idea why you work closely with organizations XYZ but not with ABC? What is the difference between those organizations?**
    a. When you compare the organizations you have frequent contact with to those you have little contact with, what stands out to you? *[Optionally, check if there are differences between domains]*
7. **Are there organizations in the network map that act as a bridge between domain X and domain Y?**
    a. On which topics do they play a role? For which adolescents?

Closing

8. **Are there any subjects that we haven't discussed that you would like to talk about?**
9. **Do you have suggestions for other professionals or policymakers we could interview about this topic?**

Probes

Probing questions are based on the Action Scales Model (REF: Nobles et al., 2021) and the theory of boundary crossing (REF: Akkerman & Bakker, 2011).