



News

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National Children's Study records 200 babies born

BROOKINGS, S.D. — The South Dakota State University Study Center now has a total of 200 babies born into the National Children's Study in the four-county area of Brookings County in South Dakota, and Lincoln, Pipestone and Yellow Medicine Counties in Minnesota.

"The study is picking up speed," said Bonny Specker, Ph.D., the SDSU Study Center Principal Investigator. "Our four counties were selected as part of the first seven locations to ensure that the study includes children who live in rural areas."

With nearly 400 women enrolled with the SDSU Study Center, Specker said the contribution these women and their families are making to the study is priceless. "We are one of very few centers located in this part of the country, and our participants are representing the Great Plains."

The goal of the study is to improve the health and well-being of children and contribute to understanding the role various factors have on health and disease.

In September 2005, the Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development identified seven study locations to kick off the study. The NIH then funded study centers, defined as research teams from nearby universities, hospitals or other organizations that are responsible to carry out the research at the study locations.

SDSU was named the study center to lead the four counties of Brookings, Yellow Medicine, Pipestone and Lincoln. Study protocol was developed during the first four years and recruitment began in 2009.

In the fall of 2010, 30 additional centers were launched to focus on enrollment methods. Some of the new study centers closest in proximity to SDSU are Ramsey County, Minn., Polk County, Iowa, and Douglas County, Colo.

The National Children's Study is the largest long-term study of children's health ever done in the U.S. It will include 100,000 children from before birth to age 21. The study will look at how children's health is affected by a number of factors, including their family health history and the places where they live, learn and play. It will study things such as the air and water quality where children live and their daily activity.

The study will provide a rich resource of information that may ultimately help improve the health and development of children for generations to come.

The study is led by the Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development of the National Institutes of Health in collaboration with a consortium of federal government partners. Study partners include the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences of the NIH, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Environmental Protection Agency.

To receive more information, interested people can visit this website: sdsu.NationalChildrensStudy.gov; email sdsu.ncs-info@sdstate.edu or call the SDSU Study Center toll free 877-791-0054.

-www.sdstate.edu-