

The National Children's Study (NCS) is the nation's largest long-term study of child health and well being. This longitudinal study will examine the effects of social, behavioral, biological, community and environmental factors on human health and development of children in communities across the United States from pre-birth to age 21. Marion County, WV is one of many host sites across the United States.

A team from the National Children's Study is interested in understanding the factors that are important to women, fathers, and their families when asked to participate in a longitudinal study like NCS. One of our goals in this study is to identify the most effective materials and procedures for recruiting women, fathers, and their families into the study and keeping them invested over time. We invite you to participate in a study on these issues by participating in a focus group discussion.

If interested, we will try to accommodate your work and family schedules when selecting a time and date for these sessions. You will be asked to participate in one of these sessions; each session will not take longer than 1 hour. No personal information about you will be used to identify focus group participants.

We have enclosed the necessary forms for participation in this study. At this time, we ask that you review these forms and complete them if you are interested in participating.

We hope you will work with us on this very important project. If you have questions, please feel free to contact Lesley Cottrell at 304-293-1149 or Michelle Nesselrotte at 304-293-8056.