

Healthy Communities Study

How Communities Shape Children's Health

Sponsored by the National Institutes of Health

SSA Attachment 4

Ms. Debra Plum
Orchard Drive
Your Community, ID 12345-6789

Only 78 families in your community will take part in this health study designed to help improve children's health in your community and nationwide. **Your family** is invited to participate

Dear Debra Plum,

Your family has been selected from all the households in your community to participate in a national health study. This is your opportunity to have a major impact on the health of America's children—and we hope you take it.

Like parents everywhere, you dream of your children growing up to be happy, healthy, and successful adults. You want them to reach their full potential. Many different factors can affect the health of children. For example, community parks give children a place to play safely. Learning healthy habits—like eating well and getting enough exercise—are also important.

The National Institutes of Health—the nation's medical research agency—is conducting a national study to determine which factors are most important to the health of our children. This national effort is called the *Healthy Communities Study*. It's the largest attempt to understand the relationship between community activities and good nutrition, physical activity, and a healthy weight among children. Enclosed is a brochure with additional information on the study.

Only 78 families in your community have been selected for this study. And your family is one of them. That's why we're writing to you now. We're asking you to take part in the *Healthy Communities Study*, if you meet certain requirements. We'd like one of your children to participate with you, too. **Participating is easy, costs nothing, and won't take a lot of time.** You can do it in your home at your convenience and stop at any time. Your answers will be kept private under the Privacy Act. **To thank you for participating, your family will receive a gift worth up to \$30 or more (depending on your level of involvement in the study). Your child will also receive a small gift.**

To learn more and find out if your family is eligible, please call us at 800-XXX-XXXX. Or log on to our Web site at www.www.www. When you call us or go to our Web site, we will ask you for *your* special study code and password. Your study code is: **xxxxxx** and your password is: **xxxxxxxxx**. We'll also be following up with a phone call in a few days to answer any questions you may have about the study and your participation. Please welcome it.

The *Healthy Communities Study* could benefit the health of our nation's children for many years to come—and you could make an important contribution to it. We look forward to talking with you very soon.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

[Signature]

S. Sonia Arteaga, Ph.D.
Project Officer

National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute
National Institutes of Health

Howard A. Fishbein, Dr. PH
Study Director

Battelle Memorial Institute

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