

BABY'S FIRST YEARS NEWS

ISSUE 2, APRIL 2020
CORONAVIRUS SPECIAL

Shortly after giving birth, you agreed to take part in the Baby's First Years study. You have been joined by nearly 1,000 other mothers in four U.S. cities: New Orleans, LA; New York City, NY; Omaha, NE; and the Twin Cities, MN. On behalf of the entire Baby's First Years' research team, thank you for your ongoing participation in this landmark research!

LETTER FROM THE STUDY TEAM

In light of the disruptions and uncertainties caused by the coronavirus pandemic, we are writing to assure you that our monthly deposits on your 4MyBaby debit cards will continue as planned.

IN THIS ISSUE OF THE NEWSLETTER, YOU'LL FIND



- Changes we have made to the study in response to Covid-19
- Information about what we've learned from the age 1 visits so far

Warm Wishes,

Baby's First Years team of researchers

WHAT TO EXPECT NEXT

All of you joined the study shortly after giving birth. And many of you talked with us again around the time of your baby's first birthday.

COVID-19 ADJUSTMENTS

- **We stopped in-person visits, and are doing age 1 interviews by phone until further notice.** The safety of our study participants and communities is a top priority. For now, all study visits are taking place over the phone. We hope to be able to resume in-person visits. We thank you if you have participated in one of these phone calls.
- **Part of the age 2 visit may happen over the phone for some of you.** Your second visit will happen around your child's second birthday. We hope that many of these visits can happen in-person, but if that is not possible, then we will do the interview over the phone; we will likely follow

up with you in person if possible. We thank you in advance for your response to this request.

- **If your phone number or address has changed since your baby's birth, please call the University of Michigan's toll-free numbers, so we can reach you:**
 - English: (877) 647-2122
 - Spanish: (800) 643-7605
- **Louisiana and Minnesota Moms:** If you are participating in the interview study, in which we have a conversation about your life and experiences as a mom, we will be doing all conversations by phone for now.

WHAT YOU ARE TELLING US

We are learning a lot about you and your one-year old and families like yours. Based on what some of you have already told us, many of you are spending time with your child and juggling work or schooling or some kind of education and training. We are also learning about time your children spend with other caregivers; and, despite the ups and down of life with an infant, most of you feel good about parenting.

This is a small fraction of the information you have told us. The newsletter is designed to share information about the study and its current status, and we will continue to share information with you as it becomes available.

Baby's First Years' researchers: Kimberly Noble (Lead PI, neuroscience, Teachers College, Columbia University); Katherine Magnuson (Lead PI, social and behavioral science, University of Wisconsin, Madison); Greg Duncan (University of California, Irvine); Nathan Fox (University of Maryland); Lisa Gennetian (Duke University); Hirokazu Yoshikawa (New York University); and Sarah Halpern-Meekin (Lead qualitative study PI, University of Wisconsin, Madison). Special thanks to our partners at the University of Michigan's Survey Research Center.

For more information: info@babysfirstyears.com

4MYBABY DEBIT CARD

DID YOU KNOW...

You can use your 4MyBaby card gift money in any way you want.

There are no restrictions on how to use the money.

Your 4MyBaby card money is a gift. For this reason, the gift will not be counted as income when you apply/reapply for many public support programs (visit 4MyBabyCard.com for more specific information).

You can get a FREE replacement card.

Replacements through MasterCard cost \$7, but by calling the 4MyBaby card hotline (608-291-7359), you can get a FREE replacement card if your card is missing. Realizing your card is gone can be disappointing, but it doesn't have to cost you!

You can get a proof of gift payment letter.

Do you need a letter to show that your payments will come regularly for the first forty months of your child's life? We will gladly write a personalized letter for you if needed – call or email us to make the request.

You can sign-up for text or email alerts to tell you when your monthly payment is deposited.

If you want reminders about your gift payments, you can opt to get a text or email notification. To sign up, call or email the 4MyBaby card hotline, or visit www.myelincard.com.

NEED HELP WITH YOUR 4MYBABY DEBIT CARD? THE 4MYBABY HOTLINE IS HERE TO HELP!

609-291-7359 | 4mybabycard@gmail.com
www.4MyBabyCard.com