



100,000 babies are about to change the world. Yours could be one of them.

PERSPECTIVES



*Maurita De La Torre
Principal of
Russell Elementary
in Santa Ana*

During the very first meeting when I heard about the National Children's Study (NCS), I was sold.

My community is very representative of the communities this study hopes to help. Being able to provide assistance for a project that will in turn help so many is exciting!

My parents (at the school) are always asking for resources that can be brought into our community to help with the array of medical-related issues that come up. Knowing that we will at some small level contribute to something that will be used to help so many is a way to make this community feel valued and important.

I have tried to help by inviting representatives from the Study to speak at parent education meetings and to offer our school as one of the official meeting sites for the community discussions. In addition, I have unconditionally opened up the doors to NCS so they can have access to our school, staff, and community.

Launch Date: April 25 - Here We Come

The time has come! After almost a decade of planning, the National Children's Study (NCS) is ready to recruit participants for this landmark study.

Here in Orange County, we will begin recruiting participants this month. NCS Household Interviewers will go door-to-door in five segments (selected neighborhoods) to invite eligible women to participate. Irvine, Anaheim, Huntington Beach and Santa Ana will be the first communities to see NCS staff. In May, June and July, we will visit 10 additional communities.....

So we've been busy on many fronts. Eight NCS Supervisors and Trainers spent about a week in Rockville, MD., learning how to conduct household interviews. We are now in the midst of training all the NCS Household Interviewers.....

Have you seen NCS around? NCS staff, volunteers and our babies strutted our stuff at the Laguna Beach Patriots' Day Parade on Mar. 7. We even won Third place in the Contemporary Auto category!! Thank you to Neighborhood Advisory Committee (NAC) member TuRae (and Steve)

Fazio for loaning us your 1965 Chevy Malibu.

Also, we've had our booth at events like the Huntington Valley Little League Grand Slam on Feb. 28, Ice Cream Social in Anaheim on Mar. 5 and the Raise Foundation Annual Blue Ribbon Family Carnival in Costa Mesa on Apr. 4.

Come join us for an upcoming event (see page 2)!



Top: NCS staff's children at the Laguna Beach Patriots' Day Parade. Bottom: NCS car (owned by TuRae and Steve Fazio) wins Third place in the Contemporary Auto category.

The Orange County Vanguard Center is led by the University of California, Irvine in partnership with Children's Hospital of Orange County; Children & Families Commission of Orange County; and County of Orange Health Care Agency. The National Children's Study is led by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services; National Institutes of Health; Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; and U. S. Environmental Protection Agency. Contact us at (888) 824-4121 or ncs.oc@uci.edu. Visit our website at nationalchildrensstudy.gov. *Tagline copyrighted by Children's Hospital of Philadelphia. Reprinted with permission.



UPCOMING EVENTS



NCS staff recruits a volunteer at the Huntington Valley Little League Grand Slam in February.

If you would like to help at an upcoming event, contact your Neighborhood Advisory Committee (NAC) leads or call (949) 824-4121. The more the merrier!

April 17 and 21 - We will have a booth set up outside Myford Elementary in Irvine to reach out to parents.

Week of April 20-23 – Look for us at the Sunkist Branch Library and Juarez School and Park in Anaheim.

April 25 - Join our team at the Santa Ana Library's El Dia del Niño (Children's Day) celebration!

April 25 - The Faces of Fullerton in Fullerton Plaza is sponsored by the Fullerton Collaborative. Come join us!

April 25 - Look for us at the 2nd Annual Family Festival at the Atlantis Play Center in Garden Grove in celebration of the Week of the Young Child.

April 26 – Team OC is putting on walking shoes to support babies! Join us at the March of Dimes' March for Babies at Fashion Island in Newport Beach!

Spotlight on Committee Member

JAVIER DIAZ, LAGUNA BEACH NAC MEMBER AND COMMUNITY LIAISON FOR LAGUNA BEACH UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT



We are all aware that there are many environmental influences that affect the health and development of our children. I truly believe that the National Children's Study will help us find more information pertaining

to our country's children's health. I don't have any children but I do plan on having some in the near future. That is why I believe this study is so important. As a future parent, I want to have a better understanding of what I need to do for my children to be as healthy as possible.

Announcements



We would like to welcome our new Outreach and Engagement Coordinator Mary Coggins. We would also like to thank Ofelia

Sandoval, former coordinator, for all her hard work. Ofelia is moving away from Orange County but will continue her support of the Study around the country. If you would like to help at an upcoming event or join a NAC, please contact Mary at mcoggins@uci.edu or (888) 824-4121 (toll free) or (949) 824-4121.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

How long will you be enrolling participants?

We will be enrolling moms-to-be and their families for the first five years of the Study. After they agree to participate, the mom, her child and their family will be part of the Study until the child's 21st birthday.

What if I move after I am enrolled?

If you move within the United States, you might become part of the nearest NCS Study Center.

What is an Enumerator?

An Enumerator is another name for the NCS Household Interviewer. The Enumerators will be creating a list of everyone who lives in every household.

Can I enroll in the Study if I do not live in one of the 15 selected neighborhoods?

No. Unfortunately, only pregnant women who live in the segments can enroll in the Study.