Recruitment Update

We had planned to recruit 400 women total for this study, 200 Caucasian and 200 African American. I am pleased to announce that we have reached our goal for Caucasian participants! We are still actively recruiting African American women, and hope to reach the halfway point by the end of the year. Thank you everyone who has recruited for us. We are so grateful for your hard work, and are looking forward to continuing our relationship into the New Year!

We will continue recruiting African American women at least through the spring, although we hope to reach our goal as soon as possible. We are offering incentives to anyone who helps us reach our recruitment goal for African American women; 2 monthly drawings to encourage recruitment. The first is for a prize pack for recruiting a participant for the study. Any recruiter who provides us information for a new participant will be entered to win a prize pack that includes goodies for both personal use, and during the work day (stress ball anyone?). Our second drawing is for a $25 gift card to Meijer. Recruiters will be entered into this drawing when he or she recruits three African American women who complete home visits. Once the third home visit is completed, your name will be entered, and will not be removed until you win or the study is completed.

We had also planned to complete 60 follow-up home visits with 30 Caucasian women, and 30 African American women. We are pleased to announce that all 60 follow-up visits have been completed. Thank you to our fabulous Data Collectors for reaching this goal!

LOOK AT THESE BARS RISE!

NEAT-R Corner

We have met with five of our eight Early Head Start partners to begin piloting the NEAT-R Toddler Assessment. The response to the NEAT-R Assessments has been very positive, especially for the Tool Kits. The handouts can be used independently of the assessment, and the box of real world objects to demonstrate sizes is a one-of-a-kind educational tool.

We have asked all Early Head Start staff to provide feedback for the assessment, as well as the handouts and Tool Kits. So far the feedback has been easily incorporated, and has strengthened the NEAT-R tools. We are eager for more feedback, or completed evaluations, so if you have some information for us, please pass it along using the contact information on the back page of this newsletter.

We haven’t received any completed assessments, but are hoping to get some soon. If you have a completed assessment and don’t know what to do with it, please contact your EHS NEAT-R representative or Kate at: smithk81@msu.edu or by phone: (517) 355-6744

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**Winners Circle!**

Our offices had been so busy with our NEAT-R preparations, that the winners of the monthly drawings have not been announced. Here are our winners to date:

**August:**
Sarah Perettie of Detroit won our prize pack for recruiting a new participant.

Keisha Willis, also of Detroit, won the $25 gift card to Meijer for recruiting 3 African American women who completed home visits.

**September:**
Sheldon Kranendonk of NEMCSA’s Alpena county won our prize pack for recruiting a new participant.

Ann Thompson of Jackson won the $25 gift card to Meijer for recruiting 3 African American women who completed home visits.

**October:**
Angela Rhiel of Eight-CAP in Isabella county won our prize pack for recruiting a new participant.

Ryanne Kross of Carman-Ainsworth in Flint won the $25 gift card to Meijer for recruiting 3 African American women who completed home visits.

**November:**
Dennis Corwin of NEMCSA in Iosco County won our prize pack for recruiting a new participant.

Deb Jones, one of our Muskegon Data Collectors, won the $25 gift card to Meijer for recruiting 3 African American women who completed home visits.

**December:**
Debi Rittenbury of GCCARD in Flint won our prize pack for recruiting a new participant.

Evon Beavers, one of our Jackson Data Collectors, won the $25 gift card to Meijer for recruiting 3 African American women who completed home visits.

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**Toddler Corner**

**Checkerboard Sandwiches**

Here is a healthy and fun way to give your children 2 servings of healthy whole grain, 1 serving of protein, and 1 serving of fruit. Serve with a glass of milk for a well balanced meal.

**Ingredients:**
- 1 slice of white bread, & 1 slice of whole wheat bread
- 2 tablespoons of peanut butter
- **Half a banana**

Spread one slice of bread with peanut butter. Top with slices of banana and the second slice of bread. Cut the sandwich into four squares. Before serving to your toddler, turn over two of the squares to form a checkerboard pattern. Or you can cut into smaller squares and have a game of checkers using carrot and celery slices as the checkers.

**You can use any fruit your toddler prefers, such as 10 grapes cut into halves, or 1/4 cup of strawberry slices. If your toddler doesn’t like wheat bread, try a slice of rye or pumpernickel for an interesting change.**

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**NEAT Research Office HOURS**

Monday - Friday
8:30 am - 4:30 pm

If you have any news, comments, questions, or ideas to share in the NEAT newsletter...please call our office at (517) 355-6744, fax at (517) 355-5002, or email Kate (smithk81@msu.edu)

**Contact us at:**
MSU NEAT Research Office
Dr. Millie Horodynski
Kate Smith, Project Manager
B 515-G West Fee Hall
East Lansing, MI 48824

Visit our website: www.nursing.msu.edu/neat

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