



April 2009

Dear Parent,

**Have you ever tried to find a specialist doctor for your child?** Specialists are doctors who treat one part of the body or one kind of illness.

All Kids wants to learn more from families in Cook County who have children who need special medical care. We want to make sure children in Cook County can see specialist doctors when they need to.

**If your child needed to see a specialist doctor, you can help.** How did you find a specialist doctor for your child? Was it easy or hard? If you had trouble finding a specialist doctor, what kind of problems did you have? Please help by sharing your story.

All Kids has hired the University of Chicago Survey Lab to talk to parents for the Child Health Study. Anything you tell the Survey Lab will be totally private. The Survey Lab will not give All Kids any information that identifies you or your child. The Survey Lab staff will use the stories they hear from parents to give All Kids advice about making the program better. See the fact sheet on the back of this letter to learn more about the Child Health Study.

If your child needed care from a specialist doctor, we want you to call to tell the Survey Lab but you do not have to call. Whatever you decide will make no difference in whether your child can get All Kids.

**The Survey Lab needs to talk to as many families as possible. So please call.**

**Call 1-773-834-5390**

**Hours: 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. or 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.**

**Monday through Friday**

**April 13 through May 1, 2009**

When you call, the Survey Lab staff will ask a few questions about your child's health and about how you got that child to see a specialist doctor. The call should last 10 to 15 minutes. If you agree, the Survey Lab may set up a later time to ask you more questions.

**Please share your story to help make All Kids better. Call the Child Health Study at 1-773-834-5390.**

Sincerely,

All Kids

## **Child Health Study Fact Sheet**

**What is the Child Health Study about?** All Kids will use the Child Health Study to make sure children can get help from a specialist physician when they need it. The study covers children living in Cook County and includes hearing from parents or other relatives raising children who need to see a specialist physician. The study will learn a lot from what families have to say about getting care their children need.

**Who is conducting the Child Health Study?** The University of Chicago Survey Lab is interviewing families for this study. The person in charge of the study is Dr. Karin Rhodes.

**Who can participate?** The Survey Lab wants to talk to any adult parent or caretaker raising a child in Cook County who needed to see a specialist doctor. The Survey Lab needs to hear what works and what does not work in All Kids. If you had a good experience or if you had trouble finding a specialist doctor, you can help. If you are willing to tell your story, you must call the Survey Lab at **1-773-834-5390**.

**What will you be asked to do?** When you call, the Survey Lab staff will ask questions about your child's health needs, yourself and your experience finding a specialist. They will ask some parents to schedule a second interview in person to learn more about their experience. If you are willing to meet in person, the Survey Lab will set up a convenient time and place for a longer interview.

**Who will know what you tell us?** The Survey Lab staff will protect your privacy. They will not share your name or the name of your child with anyone else. The Survey Lab will compare your story to that of other families. They will find the things that all families had in common and they will tell All Kids about those things in a written report. The report will not say anything personal about the families who call. You will be able to read the final report.

**How can you be sure your rights are protected?** The University of Chicago has an institutional review board that reviews all research studies to make sure they protect the people who participate. If you ever feel your rights as a survey participant have been violated, contact the Social and Behavioral Sciences Institutional Review Board at (773) 834-7835, located at 5835 S. Kimbark Ave., Chicago IL 60637. For questions about the Child Health Study itself, please contact the Survey Lab Director, Martha Van Haitsma at 1-773-834-3843 or mvh@uchicago.edu.