

**Name of Study:** UM SIB SMILE (Sibling Studies Measuring Infant Learning and Emotion)

**Location:** University of Miami, Coral Gables, FL

**Eligibility Criteria:** Participants in this research are infants, who must be enrolled between the ages of two and twelve months who have an older sibling.

**Principal Investigator:** Dr. Daniel Messinger

**Contact Information:** Dr. Kara Kelley, Coordinator, phone: (305) 284-1122

Dear Parent,

I am writing this letter to offer your child an opportunity to participate in UM SIB SMILE, a research study at the University of Miami. The goal of this research is to facilitate early detection of Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) by identifying behavioral markers in young infants. In this study, we compare infants who have an older ASD sibling with infants who have typically developing older siblings on their social, cognitive and emotional development as well as brain activity in the first 36 months of life. These comparisons will help us learn more about how early behaviors are related to the later development of autistic symptomatology.

We are looking to expand participation in this study and are actively seeking to enroll families who have at least two children, one with or without an ASD and a younger sibling between the ages of two and twelve months. In this study, researchers observe the baby and their parent interacting as well as the researcher interacting with and testing the baby. We also measure the baby's brain activity. To better understand how siblings are the same and different, we conduct a number of assessments with your older children as well. Parents receive feedback and DVD recordings of their visits. Babies who participate in the study are monitored closely for signs of autism from birth to 36 months. Compensation is available for participants at each visit. There is no charge to participate in the study.

More information about this project can be found at <http://umsibsmile.psy.miami.edu>. If you are interested in participating, please contact Dr. Kara Kelley at (305) 284-1122. Thank you in advance for your time and assistance. We look forward to working with you in the near future.

Sincerely,

Dr. Kara Kelley, Psy.D

Research Coordinator

Department of Psychology, Child Division

University of Miami