

Name of Study: Emotional Expressions in Autistic and Typically Developing Children

Location: Salisbury University, Salisbury, Maryland

Eligibility Criteria:

- 4 and 5-year-old children
- With an Autistic Spectrum Disorder **OR** typically developing with no family history of Autism Spectrum Disorder

Principal Investigator: Dr. Marta Losonczy-Marshall

Contact Information: Dr. Marta Losonczy-Marshall, Principal Investigator, phone (410) 543-6444.

Dear Parent,

I am writing this letter to offer your child(ren) an opportunity to participate in a research study at Salisbury University. The study is looking at differences in emotional expression between children who are autistic and children who are not autistic.

Your participation will require approximately one hour of time at Salisbury University.

Participation in this research will involve:

- filling out a demographic questionnaire,
- filling out one temperament questionnaire,
- a standard pediatric screening (Denver II) to look at motor, language and other skills, and
- video recording of the child's emotional expressions in response to every day events. Examples of these events are the parent reading a story, the parent engaging in a finger play (ex: "the eensy weensy spider"), and giving the child a toy to play with.

Participation is voluntary. Parents and children can choose to stop participation in the study at any point in time. Refusal to participate or discontinuing participation at any point in the study will not result in any penalties or loss of benefits to which the child is otherwise entitled. Individuals will be paid a fee (\$20) for participation in this research, and children will receive a toy. There is no charge for participating in the study.

If you are interested in participating, please contact Dr. Marta Losonczy-Marshall at (410) 543-6444.

Thank you in advance for your time and assistance. We look forward to working with you in the near future.

Sincerely,

Dr. Marta Losonczy-Marshall

Associate Professor

Psychology Department

Salisbury University