

April 17, 2026

«motherfirstname» «motherlastname»  
«address1»  
«address2»  
«City», «State» «zip»

Dear Ms. «motherlastname»:

On behalf of the Birth Defects Study To Evaluate Pregnancy exposureS or BD-STEPS study team, I want to thank you for returning the BD-STEPS saliva collection kits to us.

Your samples will be used to help us better understand how genetic factors play a role in why some babies have birth defects. Enclosed is a \$20 gift card as a token of appreciation for your time and interest.

Please feel free to call one of our study staff at 1-888-743-7324 or me at [**insert local contact number**] if you have any questions that were not answered. In addition, I hope we may contact you again if new questions come up as we progress in our work.

We publish an electronic newsletter yearly that updates participants on the progress of the study. You can access this newsletter at [www.BDSTEPS.org](http://www.BDSTEPS.org).

Thank you again for your contributions to BD-STEPS.

Sincerely yours,

<Insert Local PI Name and local contact>