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New Program Benefits Durham County Newborns

The parents of all newborns in Durham County will receive a free in-home nurse visit as part of Durham Connects, a new program investing in the county's future: its children.

"Child development is a foundation for community and economic development, and capable children become the foundation of a prosperous society," says Jeannine Sato, director of the Office of Community Resources for Durham Connects.

Through this partnership between the Durham County Health Department and Durham Family Initiative, 20 community health nurses who have been specially trained will visit more than 4,000 newborns and their families in Durham each year. The visit, when the babies are about 1 month old, will include a free physical assessment, allow the parents to ask questions, provide professional support and create links to community resources. And the nurses will offer a free gift bag with diapers and other baby supplies as well as literature.

Durham Connects began its initial visits during the summer and will expand as nurses are hired and trained to cover the entire county. Learn more by calling 919-668-3279 or visiting www.durhamconnects.org.

