The MURDOCK Study continues to expand its reach in the Cabarrus County/Kannapolis region with the addition of a new Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) to its list of enrollment locations.

The McGill Family Medicine Center in Concord enrolled its first MURDOCK participant on January 11, 2012. The center was enlisted by the MURDOCK Study to address the significant interest of prospective participants obtained at health fairs, churches, and other clinics. A second FQHC in Concord, the Logan Family Resource Center, is expected to be added to the list of MURDOCK enrollment sites later this year.

An FQHC is a classification of healthcare provider as defined by Medicare and Medicaid guidelines. These organizations are located in medically underserved areas or provide care to medically underserved populations. In exchange, FQHCs are eligible for additional resources from the U.S. government. As of 2009, there were 26 FQHCs operating 137 clinical sites in North Carolina.

The McGill Family Medicine Center is particularly valuable as an enrollment site because it is located within walking distance of many of its patients. This allows MURDOCK coordinators to enroll participants who do not have access to transportation.

The addition of the McGill Family Medicine Center is the result of negotiations conducted by Perla Nunes (pictured here), administrative manager of the MURDOCK Study, and clinical trials assistant Cecilia Plez. The study reached an agreement with McGill’s interim director, Lamar Barrier, late last year.

“It was a combined effort,” Nunes said. “We have been working toward a site agreement contract with McGill for two years.” With the McGill Family Medicine Center now part of the MURDOCK Study, team members hope to expand the reach of the study to an even wider cross-section of the Cabarrus County region.
Ada Jenkins Center of Davidson, NC partners with the MURDOCK Study

The Ada Jenkins Center (www.adajenkins.org) joined with the MURDOCK Study as a new enrollment site. The Center is a community resource offering services and programs to benefit individuals and families including crisis assistance, medical and dental care, youth education, and economic development.