

The Jennifer Brown Research Fund Information Sheet



The *Co-operative*
Party



Congress President Gareth Thomas MP & The Co-operative Party have decided to make the Jennifer Brown Research Fund their chosen charity appeal for this year.

Sarah Brown, President of PiggyBankKids, explains why she and Gordon Brown are supporting medical research into problems affecting unborn children

'I am delighted that Gareth & The Co-operative Party have agreed to help me with the charity fundraising for a new medical research initiative that will contribute to safer pregnancies and the delivery of healthy newborn babies otherwise at risk.

Last year Gordon and I were overwhelmed by the kindness and support of so many people who wrote when we faced the personal tragedy of losing our daughter, Jennifer. Since then, we have kept in close contact with the doctors, nurses and midwives who helped bring us the brief, but precious time we had and who have opened our eyes to their world. Nothing could fault the care given, but it is clear that greater perinatal research brings new understanding, which in turn helps save newborn lives.

In Edinburgh, leading medical experts are bringing together and expanding their work in a new perinatal research laboratory in the New Royal Infirmary. The laboratory will support fundamental scientific research into those complications of pregnancy that affect fetal development, premature birth and neonatal development. This new co-ordinated programme creates a powerful opportunity to make real and tangible progress in this important area of medical research and brings exciting challenges for enhanced cooperation for the doctors and scientists currently working in their specialist areas.

I have pledged to help make this project a reality and to raise £600,000 for the first three critical years. The new research laboratory will be named for Jennifer and will leave a lasting memory in a place where it feels most appropriate.'

To help raise the money, the Co-operative Party is organising a number of exciting fundraising initiatives throughout 2003. There will be a Parliamentary football tournament, a sponsored 'jailbreak' and a range of local fundraising social events, more details of which you can get from j.nicholson@co-op-party.org.uk.

Those who would like to make a donation should make cheques payable to **The Jennifer Brown Research Fund** and send to: Gareth Thomas MP c/o The Co-operative Party, 77 Weston Street, London SE1 3SD.

PiggyBankKids is a registered UK charity - number 1092312. For further details see www.piggybankkids.org