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Innovation + Job News

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April 14, 2009

TechTown welcomes BioTrust bank's blood samples, research

The Michigan Neonatal BioTrust is open and ready for business in TechTown's Tech One building. A grand opening is set for June.

The BioTrust employs three part-time people and 14 student interns from nearby Wayne State University. Those numbers could soon increase to 2-3 full-time employees and even more student interns.

"I could see doubling it," says James Eliason, scientific adviser for Michigan Neonatal BioTrust.

The BioTrust has access to 3.5 million blood spots taken from Michigan children. It's scanning them into a system so they can be used for population-based research, such as seeing how lead poisoning impacts children.

"We have only scanned in 200,000" Eliason says. "We have a long ways to go."

Van Andel Institute in Grand Rapids, Michigan State University, the University of Michigan and the Michigan Department of Community Health have all partnered together to create the BioTrust.

Source: James Eliason, scientific adviser for Michigan Neonatal BioTrust

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