

Alabama

Maternal and Child Health Block Grant 2019

The Maternal and Child Health Services Block Grant, Title V of the Social Security Act, is the only federal program devoted to improving the health of all women, children and families. In FY2017, 86% of all pregnant women, 99% of infants, and 55% of children nationwide benefitted from a Title V-supported service. To learn more about Title V, visit www.amchp.org.

MCH Block Grant Funds to Alabama

| FY 2016 | FY 2017 | FY 2018 |
|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| \$11,260,728 | \$11,264,929 | \$11,411,388 |

Title V Administrative Agency:
Bureau of Family Health Services
Alabama Department of Public Health

*States must provide a three dollar match for every four Federal dollars allocated.

Protecting and Improving the Health of Alabama's Families

Health Care for Women and Children — By helping to pay for salaries, supplies and equipment in county health departments (CHDs), Title V helps provide physical assessments, immunizations, hearing screening, nutritional assessment, developmental appraisal, and dental care for children, as well as preventive health care for women through the Well Woman Program.

Services for Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs (CYSHCN) — Through 14 community-based offices, with the help of Title V funds, Children's Rehabilitation Service (CRS) provides medical and evaluation clinic services to CYSHCN with an emphasis on care coordination. Care coordinators, including nurses and social workers, travel to their assigned counties to meet families, arrange services, and maintain working partnerships with local service programs and providers. CRS provides many other services including information and referral, therapy services and family/youth support.

Newborn Screening — The Alabama Newborn Screening Program (ANSP) is administered statewide by the Alabama Department of Public Health (ADPH), in partnership with public and private providers. The newborn screen includes bloodspot screen newborn hearing screen, and pulse oximetry screen to detect critical congenital heart defects. Also, CRS audiologists provide second-level screening and offer diagnostic and intervention services via evaluations, hearing aid dispensing, and hearing aid orientation. Newborn screening is offered through Alabama's 46 birthing hospitals. The goal of ANSP is to identify certain genetic and congenital disorders early to reduce infant morbidity, death, intellectual disability and other developmental disabilities.

Transition Planning for Youth with Special Needs — CRS promotes transition planning for youth with special health care needs and their families via care coordination and other activities. At 14-16 years of age, CRS youth are transferred to Social Work Transition Specialist caseloads for education and guidance in planning for all aspects of adulthood. Further, CRS has Teen Transition Clinics across the state to address issues and problems such as adult healthcare, functional independence, mobility and independent living. CRS is using strategies from the Six Core Elements of Health Care Transition 2.0 to improve the quality of its transition program. CRS is located in the Alabama Department of Rehabilitation Services which also serves adults through its Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) program. A continuum of services is encouraged through a transition task force composed of CRS transition social workers and VR counselors.

State Perinatal Program — The State Perinatal Program (SPP) operates under the State Board of Health. The State Perinatal Advisory Committee (SPAC) advises the State Health Officer in the planning, organization, and implementation of the SPP. The Fetal and Infant Mortality Review and the Maternal Mortality Review (MMR) Programs identify and recommend strategies that will effectively decrease fetal, infant and maternal morbidity and mortality as a means to improve maternal and infant health. The FIMR and the MMR Programs consist of volunteer professionals from across the state who are involved in MCH related work. The SPP staff are located throughout the state and operate under Alabama's Title V Program by engaging in outreach and education activities at the local, state, and national levels

Care Coordination at County Health Departments (CHDs) — Care coordination provided in CHDs helps patients to access and obtain maximum benefit from needed health-related services. The Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnosis, and Treatment (EPSDT) Care Coordination Program, implemented under the Alabama Medicaid Agency's primary care case management program, is the main channel through which ADPH provides care coordination for children.

Percentage Served by the Alabama MCH Program*

| | |
|--------|---|
| 100.0% | Pregnant women |
| 100.0% | Infants under one |
| 4.0% | Children and adolescents |
| 12.0% | Children with special health care needs |
| 2.0% | Others |

* 2017 State/Jurisdiction Annual Reports Submitted to the Maternal and Child Health Bureau

State Selected National Performance Measures

- Well-Woman Visit
- Risk Appropriate Perinatal Care
- Safe Sleep
- Preventive Dental Visit
- Adolescent Well-Visit
- Medical Home
- Transition
- Developmental Screening

MCH Priority Needs in Alabama

- Lack of or inadequate access to comprehensive reproductive and well woman health care
- Lack of awareness of and trust in safe sleep recommendations
- Desire to maintain and strengthen regionalized perinatal care
- Low rates of preventive health and developmental screening for children
- Low rates of preventive health and developmental screening for adolescents
- Inadequate and insufficient health education and outreach pertaining to oral health
- Inadequate health and dental insurance for all Title V populations
- Lack of or inadequate access for CSHCN to family- centered, coordinated, ongoing comprehensive care within a medical home
- Lack of or inadequate access to services necessary for CSHCN to transition to all aspects of adult life

Current Special Projects of Regional and National Significance (SPRANS)

State Systems Development Initiative (SSDI)
ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH
Montgomery, AL

MCH Pipeline Training Program
ALABAMA STATE UNIVERSITY
Montgomery, AL

Leadership Education in Adolescent Health (LEAH)
UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA AT BIRMINGHAM
Birmingham, AL

Pediatric Pulmonary Care Centers
UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA AT BIRMINGHAM
Birmingham, AL

Maternal and Child Health Public Health Training Program
UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA AT BIRMINGHAM
Birmingham, AL

Maternal and Child Health Nutrition Training Program
UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA AT BIRMINGHAM
Birmingham, AL

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