

## Alaska

### 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](http://www.amchp.org).

#### MCH Block Grant Funds to Alaska

FY 2016	FY 2017	FY 2018
\$1,051,991	\$1,057,450	\$1,078,526

#### Title V Administrative Agency:

Women's, Children's and Family Health, Alaska Department of Health and Social Services

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

### Protecting and Improving the Health of Alaska's Families

**MCH Epidemiology** — This group collects, analyzes and reports data regarding the status of family health in Alaska. This includes data from the Maternal Child Death Review Committee, PRAMS, Alaska Birth Defects Registry, MCH indicators, the Childhood Understanding Behaviors Survey (CUBS), and the Alaska Longitudinal Child Abuse and Neglect Linkage Project (ALCANLink).

#### Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs (CYSHCN)

— Priorities for CYSHCN focus on the promotion of developmental screening, improving health care transition for youth and adolescents, providing gap-filling pediatric specialty clinics, and empower family leaders.

**Newborn Screening** —The newborn bloodspot screening program tests infants for serious medical conditions and provides diagnostic testing and medical consultation from a specialist. The newborn hearing screening program aims to implement universal newborn hearing in all birthing facilities throughout the state and offer linkages to providers for diagnostic services and referrals for deaf or hard of hearing children to early intervention services by six months of age. Alaska law also requires birthing facilities to screen for critical congenital heart defects.

**Oral Health** —The goals of the program are to make policy recommendations to improve access to dental services, reduce disparities, and improve oral health for all Alaskans. The program has an emphasis on oral health issues for the perinatal, school-age youth, and the CYSHCN populations.

**Perinatal Health** — This program focuses on improving perinatal and infant health outcomes by addressing such topics as infant safe sleep, home visiting services, and screening for substance use. The Alaska Infant Safe Sleep initiative has worked with birthing facilities, health care providers, tribal health, and other stakeholders to promote safe sleep practices in Alaska and reduce infant mortality.

#### Reproductive Health and Teen Pregnancy Prevention --

This program offers clinical, outreach and pregnancy prevention efforts delivered through local nonprofit agencies and public health centers. TANF and PREP funding support healthy relationships and sexual health education.

**School Nursing/School Health** —The purpose of this program is to support and strengthen student health and nursing services in Alaska schools through the development of standards and guidelines and the development and dissemination of evidence-based resources. The program works closely with school nurses, other school health personnel, public health nurses working with schools, and school district administrators statewide to ensure students attending Alaska schools have safe access to needed health care to ensure their academic success.

## Percentage Served by the Alaska MCH Program\*

95.0%	Pregnant women
100.0%	Infants under one
50.0%	Children and adolescents
53.0%	Children with special health care needs
0.0%	Other

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

## Health Needs in Alaska

- Reduce substance abuse among families, including alcohol, tobacco, and drugs
- Increase access and preventative health care services to Alaskans and their families
- Increase healthy relationships
- Increase access to reproductive health services that adhere to national best practices guidelines
- Improve system of care for families with children and youth with special health care needs
- Reduce the rate of child maltreatment
- Increase evidence-based screenings for all MCH populations for behavioral and mental health problems

## State Selected National Performance Measures

- Well-Woman Visit
- Safe Sleep
- Developmental Screening
- Medical Home
- Preventive Dental Visit

For more information, contact:

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## Current Special Projects of Regional and National Significance (SPRANS)

### State Systems Development Initiative (SSDI)

ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND

SOCIAL SERVICES

Anchorage, AK

