Arkansas

Maternal and Child Health Block Grant 2021

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 FY2019, 92.1% of all pregnant women, 98.0% of infants, and 59.6% 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 Arkansas

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FY 2017</th>
<th>FY 2018</th>
<th>FY 2019</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$6,883,968</td>
<td>$6,972,695</td>
<td>$6,966,533</td>
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</tbody>
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Title V Administrative Agencies:

Arkansas Department of Health
Center for Health Advancement
Family Health Branch

Arkansas Department of Human Services
Division of Developmental Disabilities Services
Children with Chronic Health Conditions Program

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

Protecting and Improving the Health of Arkansas’s Families

Medical Home Training – With a new grant, the MCH program will provide training on the medical home concept to pediatricians and family practice physicians in target sites over the next year.

Implicit Bias Training – The MCH program plans to educate staff and key partners about the existence, influence, and consequences of bias in health care.

Family Education – Family-centered resources are made available to parents on the Title V agencies’ websites. The Parent Advisory Council’s (PAC) outreach to families through family focus groups, surveys, and participation in the Statewide needs assessment ensures families’ voices are heard. The PAC continues their long-standing tradition of parent support, training, and education through the Annual Famous Family Bistro Conference which brings together parents, providers, vendors, and self-advocates.

Children with Special Health Care Needs (CSHCN) Program — The CSHCN Program is housed within the Arkansas Department of Human Services, Division of Developmental Disabilities Services. The program, called the Children with Chronic Health Conditions (CHC) Program, provides care coordination to support families of eligible children and youth in accessing community-based services and transitioning from pediatric to adult systems of care.

The CHC Program collaborates with partners in the field of health care, such as the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences, to support families attending outreach clinics in completing applications and accessing needed services. CHC Care Coordinators assist program-eligible families in developing an individualized service plan, accessing resources, and coordinating payment for their child’s special health care. Support through direct services included gap filling services such as hearing aids for children with Title XXI, adaptive equipment not covered by Title XIX, and additional assistance with deductible and coinsurance for families of program-eligible children.

The program also provides resources that enable Arkansas’s CSHCN families to care for their children and youth at home, decreasing hospitalizations.
Percentage Served by the Arkansas MCH Program*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Population</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>89.0%</td>
<td>Pregnant women</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>98.0%</td>
<td>Infants under one</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>84.0%</td>
<td>Children and adolescents</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>84.0%</td>
<td>Children with special health care</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11.0%</td>
<td>Other</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* 2019 State/Jurisdiction Annual Reports Submitted to the Maternal and Child Health Bureau

Health Needs in Arkansas

- Increase access to and uptake of annual preventive visits for women.
- Increase access to preventive dental care services for pregnant women.
- Reduce the high infant mortality rate by increasing the percentage of very low birthweight infants born in a Level III+ neonatal intensive care unit; increasing breastfeeding initiation and maintenance rates; and increasing the adoption of infant safe sleep practices.
- Increase screening rates for the MCH population, including infant hearing; developmental, behavioral, and mental health screening; and developmental monitoring.
- Reduce child and adolescent obesity by educating school personnel about evidence-based physical activity options.
- Promote awareness of child and adolescent injury risks and prevention protocols to families, caregivers, and educators.
- Decrease the use of tobacco and vaping products.
- Improve the infrastructure for children and youth with and without special health care needs who are transitioning to adult health care.

For more information, contact:

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Current Special Projects of Regional and National Significance (SPRANS)

**State Systems Development Initiative (SSDI)**
ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
Little Rock, AR

**Maternal and Child Health Public Health Catalyst Program**
UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS SYSTEM
Little Rock, AR

Arkansas State Profile 2021