Montana
Maternal and Child Health Block Grant 2021

The Maternal and Child Health Services Block Grant, Title V of the Social Security Act (Title V/MCHBG), 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 benefited from a Title V-supported service. To learn more, visit www.amchp.org.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title V/MCHBG Funds to Montana*</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FY 2017</td>
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<tr>
<td>$2,277,159</td>
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*States must provide a three-dollar match for every four Federal dollars allocated.

Title V/MCHBG Administrative Agency:
The Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services’ Family & Community Health Bureau (FCHB), administers the Title V/MCHBG. The 2015 Title V/MCHBG Statewide Needs Assessment identified access to public health services, family support, and health education as priority needs. FCHB partnerships with County Public Health Departments, and collaborations with State agencies and private entities, contributes to success in addressing the National and State Performance Measures (NPM/SPM).

Protecting and Improving the Health of Montana’s Families

Children & Youth with Special Healthcare Needs (CYSHCN) – Children’s Special Health Services (CSHS) manages programs to support families, educate providers, and connect them to resources for CYSHCN. CSHS collaborates with diverse family lead organizations and partners such as Circle of Parents, Hands and Voices, Rural Institute for Inclusive Communities Transition Project and the Parent Partner program. In 2019, the Parent Partner Program worked directly with 232 children’s families identifying their needs, providing family-to-family support and connecting them to resources. The Circle of Parents program prevents child abuse and neglect through strengthening families in mutual self-help parent lead support groups in towns across the state of Montana.

In 2019 CSHS launched the Montana Access to Pediatric Psychiatry Network (MAPP-Net) to provide valuable education and support to Primary Care providers treating CYSHCN with behavioral and mental health needs. In 2019, 130 providers were trained on identification and treatment and a consultation line was launched in December.

Access to Care and Public Health Services – Montana’s 56 counties are all designated as medically underserved. Public health services are provided through County Public Health Departments (CPHDs), which are crucial to sustaining maternal and child health. In Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2020, SPM 1 provided foundational support to 26 CPHDs, in counties with a maternal and child population of 4,500 or less.

Social Determinants of Health – SPM 2 was created for CPHDs to 1) refer vulnerable families to community services, with follow-up; and 2) provide basic health education, especially on caring for infants and children. In FFY 2020, ten CPHDs chose to focus their activities on this measure. Enabling services were provided to 7,513 individuals. Examples of referrals include home visiting, WIC, dental services, Specialty Care Providers, adult education, and Medicaid. Health education topics included: Breastfeeding, Child Development and Safety, Family Planning, Infant Care and Development, Health Management, Parenting, and Smoking Cessation.

Focus on Suicide Prevention – CPHDs participating in the Title V/MCHBG all implement an injury-prevention activity in addition to their specific NPM/SPM activities. Montana has a very high rate of suicide. From 2017-2020, an average of 16 CPHDs per year have chosen adolescent suicide prevention, many in partnership with local schools. They used a variety of evidence-based programs, including: Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training (ASIST); Mental Health First Aid; PAX Good Behavior Game; and, Signs of Suicide (SOS).

Title V/MCHBG Success Story – Roosevelt County Public Health Department (RCPHD) made significant progress in addressing youth suicide prevention in FFY19, largely due to persistence in coalition-building with a cross-section of organizations. Most of their geographic area is on the Fort Peck Indian Reservation, so this included the tribal council. RCPHD developed a plan to help at least two schools adopt the evidence-based PAX Good Behavior Game, with a three-year timeline. PAX strengthens children’s coping skills, resiliency, and mental well-being; and reduces suicide. School buy-in accelerated the plan, and in year one: 1) the Fort Peck Tribal Council passed a resolution allowing tribal programs’ financial support; 2) funding was secured from a tribal suicide prevention grant; 3) seven
schools adopted PAX; 4) 91 school personnel were trained; 5) classroom support visits and partner trainings were scheduled; and, 6) the tribe made plans to utilize PAX in communities and with parents.

**Percentage Served by the Montana MCH Program*  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage Served</th>
<th>Program Area</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>36.0%</td>
<td>Pregnant women</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>100.0%</td>
<td>Infants under one</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30.0%</td>
<td>Children and adolescents</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>100.0%</td>
<td>Children with special health care needs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.0%</td>
<td>Others</td>
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*2019 State/Jurisdiction Annual Report Submitted to the Maternal and Child Health Bureau

**Health Needs in Montana**

- Reduce Sudden Infant Death and infant mortality
- Improve access to care and public health services for maternal and child populations
- Reduce adolescent and child bullying
- Improve oral health care for children ages 1-17
- Increase percentage of women receiving comprehensive preventive healthcare and care coordination; with focus on mental health and substance abuse
- Increase support for addressing social determinants of health, and providing health education

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

**Improving Montana’s Data Capacity for MCH Analysis**  
MONTANA STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES  
Helena, MT

**State Maternal Health Innovation Program**  
MONTANA STATE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES  
Helena, MT

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