

## Alaska

### Maternal and Child Health Block Grant 2016

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. Title V provides funding to state maternal and child health (MCH) programs, which serve 42 million women and children in the U.S. To learn more about Title V, visit [www.amchp.org](http://www.amchp.org).

#### MCH Block Grant Funds to Alaska

FY 2013	FY 2014	FY 2015
\$1,050,528	\$1,050,528	\$1,057,421

#### 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 the state. This includes data from the Maternal Infant Mortality and Child Death Review Committee, PRAMS, Alaska Birth Defects Registry, MCH indicators, the Childhood Understanding Behaviors Survey (CUBS), and the Alaska Surveillance of Child Abuse and Neglect.

**Specialty Clinics** — The overall program goal is to improve access to services for children and youth with special health care needs (CYSHCN). The program brings pediatric health care specialists to regional hubs or communities to assure that CYSHCN and their families are able to receive consultation, screening and follow-up in or near the community in which they reside.

**Newborn Screening** ---- The newborn metabolic screening program tests infants for inborn, metabolic disorders and offers genetics counseling, laboratory services and screening consultation. 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 now also requires birthing facilities to screen for critical congenital heart defects. The newborn screening program collects data on the percentage of children screened for in Alaska.

**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 a particular focus on early childhood caries supported by the Title V Block grant.

**Perinatal Health** --- This program focuses on improving perinatal and infant health outcomes by focusing on such topics as infant safe sleep, home visitation services, and breastfeeding and immunization promotion. The Alaska Infant Safe Sleep initiative has worked with birthing facilities, health care providers, 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. Title V funds are blended with TANF dollars to 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 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 nurse working with schools and school district administrators statewide to ensure students attending Alaska schools have safe access to needed health care in order to ensure their academic success.

## People Served by the Alaska MCH Program\*

Title V population-based preventive and systems building services benefit all women and children in the state.

12,795	pregnant women
10,590	infants under one
230,329	children and adolescents
2,234	children with special health care needs
0	other
<b>256,068</b>	<b>total served</b>

\*2014 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
- Injury prevention
- Adolescent well-visit
- Medical homes
- Smoking
- Oral health

For more information, contact:

### Maternal & Child Health and Children with Special Health Care Needs

Stephanie Birch, RN, MPH, MS, FNP

Section Chief

3601 C Street Suite 322

Anchorage, AK 99503-7123

Phone: (907) 334-2424

Fax: (907) 269-3465

Email: [stephanie.wrightsmann-birch@alaska.gov](mailto:stephanie.wrightsmann-birch@alaska.gov)

## Grants to Alaska\*

### State Implementation Grants for Integrated Community Systems for CSHCN

HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES, ALASKA

DEPARTMENT OF

Anchorage, AK

\$300,000

### STATE SYSTEMS DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE (SSDI)

HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES, ALASKA

DEPARTMENT OF

Anchorage, AK

\$100,000

\*These grants were awarded in FY 2013.

