

LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HOSPITALS MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH (MCH) BLOCK GRANT*

What is the MCH Block Grant?

- It is a grant from the U.S. government to State governments.
- The state must supply “matching funds” of \$3 for every \$4 the federal government awards.
- The Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals, Office of Public Health’s Bureau of Family Health (BFH) and Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs (CYSHCN) Programs are responsible for managing Louisiana’s MCH Block Grant.



What does the MCH Block fund?

- It funds health programs for **women, children, teens, and children and youth with special health care needs** and their **families**. The MCH Block Grant uses **performance measures** to guide activities. These help states to focus their efforts and tell if the program is making a difference.
- The BFH oversees programs that work to assure that pregnant women, women of childbearing age, infants, children, youth, and families in Louisiana have access to high quality health care.
- The CYSHCN Programs work to assure that children and youth with special health needs have access to services designed to minimize their disabilities and maximize their probability of enjoying an independent and self-sufficient life. Programs include screenings for genetic conditions, hearing loss, and lead, subspecialty clinics, and care coordination.

What we heard Louisiana needs:¹

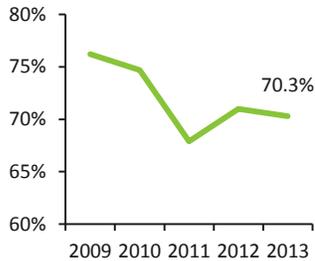
- Better access to quality health care for women, children, and teens.
- More youth, family, and local leaders across the state that work to protect the health and happiness of families.
- More social, emotional, and mental health support for families.
- Help to find needed services for children and teens, notably for those with special health care needs.
- A better understanding of why some groups have worse health problems than others. All families deserve the chance to be healthy!
- Better data on the health needs of moms, children, and teens.

Tell us what you think about the MCH Block Grant plans in Louisiana!

Visit www.surveymonkey.com/r/TitleV_LA!

Goal: To increase the % of women with a past year preventive medical visit

Percent of women with a past year preventive medical visit 2009-2013



Source: Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System

Why is a preventive visit for women important?

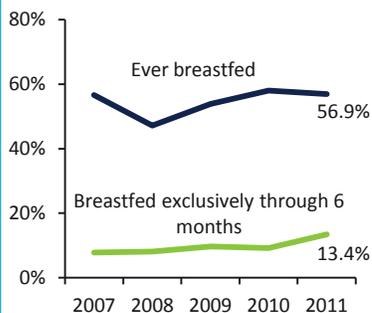
Since many women in Louisiana have chronic health issues like obesity and high blood pressure,¹ a preventive medical visit is a way to make sure women can get access to the health care they need. Preventive care can also lead to healthier pregnancies and babies.

What we plan to do:

- Increase enrollment in Medicaid and use of services offered by the Bureau of Family Health's Reproductive Health Program through outreach.
- Work with primary care doctors to ensure that reproductive health services are available throughout the state.
- Find out what the experts are saying about which services should be included in a women's yearly check-up.

Goal: To increase the % of infants who are ever breastfed and breastfed exclusively for 6 months

Percent of infants who are ever breastfed and percent of infants breastfed exclusively for 6 months 2007-2011



Source: National Immunization Survey

Why is breastfeeding important?

Breastmilk is the best food for most babies! A total of \$216,103,368 could be saved and 18 infant deaths prevented every year if 90% of Louisiana infants were exclusively breastfed for the first 6 months of life.²

What we plan to do:

- Work with hospitals and communities to increase the quality of breastfeeding support for moms.
- Provide support for breastfeeding-friendly policies in workplaces, public spaces, and school-based health clinics.
- Work with WIC, Bayou Health Plans, Head Start, and others to coordinate breastfeeding promotion activities.

¹Title V MCH Block Grant 2015 Needs Assessment, ²Ping, M, Brewer-Asling, M., Magnus, J. (2012) A case study on the economic impact of optimal breastfeeding. Maternal and Child Health Journal, DOI 10.1007/s10995-011-0942-2

Goal: To increase the % of infants placed to sleep on their backs

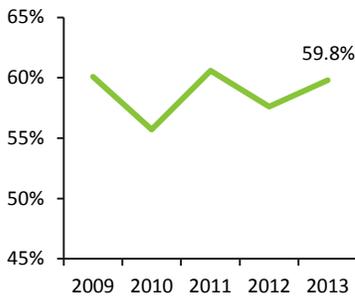
Why is back-to-sleep important?

Many women know about “safe sleep” guidelines to prevent Sudden Unexpected Infant Death (SUID): for babies to sleep Alone, on their Backs, and in a Crib. However, many families, because of personal beliefs or stressors, have trouble with these guidelines.¹

What we plan to do:

- Identify difficulties parents face when providing safe sleep environments, and design interventions to reduce them.
- Train coroners to accurately code for Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS) and other causes of death such as suffocation or strangulation.
- Work with the Louisiana Department of Education, firefighters, Emergency Medical Services (EMS), and others to train professionals on how they can use their unique platform to discuss safe sleep.

Percent of infants placed to sleep on their backs
2009-2013



Source: Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System

Goal: To increase the % children 10-71 months receiving a developmental screening

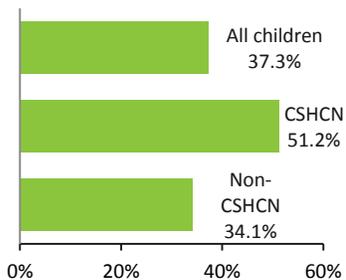
Why is developmental screening important?

Developmental screening helps doctors identify children who can benefit from early intervention. When children who need early intervention services receive them, it helps those children reach their full potential.

What we plan to do:

- Increase the number of providers who use recommended developmental screening using tools.
- Increase the number of providers who use Children’s Special Health Services (CSHS) webinars, seminars, and other training resources for developmental screening.
- Research how other states make sure that children with positive developmental screens are identified to ensure timely intervention.

Percent of children, 10-71 months, receiving a developmental screening using a parent-completed screening tool
2011-2012



Source: National Survey of Children’s Health
CSHCN: Children with special health care needs
Non-CSHCN: Children without special health care needs

Goal: To increase the % of newborns screened for genetic and hearing conditions and, if necessary, receive timely follow-up

In 2014, Louisiana had a 100% newborn screening rate for genetic conditions and a 96% screening rate for hearing conditions.

Why is newborn screening important?

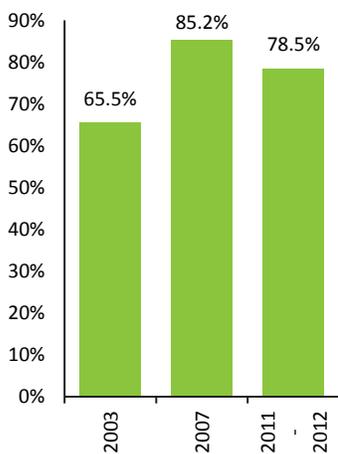
By screening early, newborns with genetic or hearing conditions can get the care and resources they need. Louisiana is working to follow the recommendations of the Secretary's Advisory Committee on Heritable Disorders in Newborns (SACHDNC), which are national guidelines.

What we plan to do:

- Increase the number of conditions in the Louisiana screening panel from 31 to 34 as recommended by the SACHDNC, and ensure at least 99% of newborns are screened annually.
- Each year, maintain 100% follow-up within 24 hours of lab report for children who screen positive for a genetic condition.
- Reduce the loss to follow-up of infants who fail newborn hearing screening by 3% each year.

Goal: To increase the % of adolescents, ages 12-17, with a preventive medical visit in the past year

Percent of adolescents, ages 12-17, with a preventive medical visit in the past year
2003, 2007, 2011-2012



Source: National Survey of Children's Health

Why is a preventive visit for adolescents important?

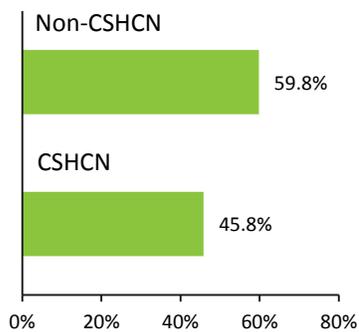
Compared to other states, Louisiana has much higher rates of overweight/obesity, experience of dating violence, alcohol use, and attempted suicide in adolescents.¹ Regular preventive care is an important step towards addressing these issues.

What we plan to do:

- Work to ensure there is at least one adolescent-friendly healthcare provider serving each parish.
- Work to make sure the Parish Health Units are adolescent-friendly.
- Develop the ability to monitor and report on the utilization of adolescent level visits by parish, payer, and provider.
- Work with the school-based health centers and make a plan for improving quality and access.

Goal: To increase the % of children with and without special health care needs having a medical home

Percent of children with and without special health care needs having a medical home
2011-2012



Source: National Survey of Children's Health
CSHCN: Children with special health care needs
Non-CSHCN: Children without special health care needs

Why is a medical home important?

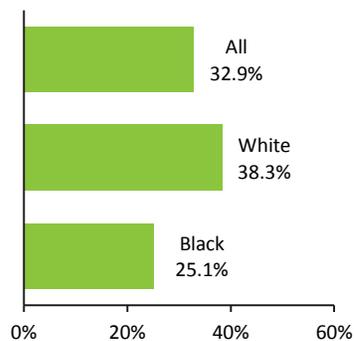
A medical home provides care that is comprehensive, coordinated, family-centered, and continuous over time. It is especially important for Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs (CYSHCN). Many families of CYSHCN receive these services through the Office of Public Health CSHS sub-specialty clinics.

What we plan to do:

- Train pediatric and family medicine physicians about care coordination and medical home, and provide them with resources to share with patients and their families.
- Continue to support families through the Family Resource Center at Children's Hospital and explore expanding this model to other areas of the state.
- Serve as a health care payer of last resort for eligible CYSHCN and provide transportation support to families who need help getting to medical appointments.

Goal: To increase the % of adolescents with special health care needs who received services necessary to make transitions to adult health care

Percent of youth with special health care needs who received services to transition to adulthood
2009-2010



Source: National Survey of Children with Special Health Care Needs

Why are transition services important?

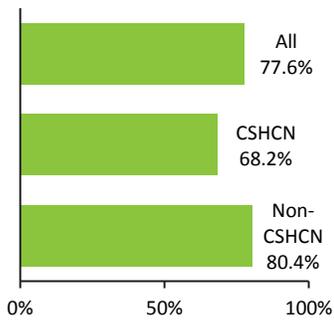
According to the 2015 Physician Survey, 16% of physicians who responded provided all key transition services,¹ which include services such as assistance in finding an adult provider, discussing future educational and job opportunities, managing their own health care, and maintaining health insurance.

What we plan to do:

- Continue to provide education on youth transition to pediatric and family medicine physicians, including residents.
- Plan, develop, and publish a health care provider Louisiana Transition Toolkit.
- Disseminate transition resources to youth with special health care needs and families through parent liaisons, care coordinators, and the CSHS website <http://www.dhh.la.gov/cshs>.

Goal: To increase the % of children, ages 0-17, who are adequately insured

Percent of children ages 0-17 who are adequately insured
2011-2012



Source: National Survey of Children's Health
CSHCN: Children with special health care needs
Non-CSHCN: Children without special health care needs

Why is adequate insurance important?

While many children in Louisiana have health insurance, not all families believe that their insurance meets their needs.¹ Inadequate insurance can make children less likely to get health care or care coordination.²

What we plan to do:

- Create a plan to train and recruit health care providers to fill areas of the state where there are provider gaps.
- Partner with community based groups to raise awareness of the eligibility process for Medicaid and LaCHIP, focusing on areas with the highest rates of inadequacy of insurance.
- Refer families of CYSHCN in CSHS clinics to the Bayou Health helpline for assistance in navigating Bayou Health Plans.

Goal: To develop and implement an evaluation protocol for MCH and CYSHCN data systems

Data systems in Louisiana:

- Child Death Review
- Fetal Infant Mortality Review
- Maternal Mortality Monitoring Systems
- Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System (PRAMS)
- CYSHCN Monitoring Systems

Why are data performance standards important?

Accuracy and reliability of data is critical in order to set program goals. The MCH Block Grant program in Louisiana values data informed programs and policy and has built a strong team of epidemiologists to monitor data for MCH and CYSHCN populations in the state.

What we plan to do:

- Identify MCH and CYSHCN data standards and develop a standardized evaluation protocol.
- Identify at least 2 priority MCH or CYSHCN data systems where performance standards are needed and implement evaluation protocol for those systems.

Goal: To develop and implement a plan that will identify improvements for social and behavioral health supports for MCH and CYSHCN



Why are social and behavioral health supports important?

Families and stakeholders identified violence, trauma, substance use, and behavioral health as significant concerns in their families and communities.¹ 92% of parishes in Louisiana qualify as Mental Health Professional Shortage Areas.²

What we plan to do:

- Develop an action plan to improve the quality and availability of social and behavioral health supports for MCH and CYSHCN.
- Identify, explore, and prioritize gaps and opportunities related to prevention, intervention, and systems coordination.
- Explore opportunities to enhance or expand existing social and behavioral health activities, such as Vroom, the ACE Educator Program, mental health consultation, and CSHS care coordination and parent liaison activities.

Goal: To engage local leaders and large employers in action that improves social and physical environments that promote good health

Health care is just one piece of a thriving community. Other factors include:⁴

- Economic Stability
- Education
- Neighborhood Condition
- Social and Community Context

Why is engaging businesses important?

Many of the challenges that families in Louisiana face are areas where employers could have influence to improve outcomes. These areas include:¹

- Insurance adequacy
- Quality child care
- Breastfeeding support
- Financial stability

What we plan to do:

- Develop a plan to partner with local leaders and large employers to positively influence health in their communities.
- Identify or target at minimum 1 local leader/large employer annually to engage in improving health in their community.
- Develop visual aids and oral presentations to guide discussions with business identified.

Goal: To increase community input into MCH policies, procedures, and programs by actively engaging partners into program planning and evaluation activities



Community engagement is a vital step in promoting equity and reducing disparities.²

Why is community input important?

Many women and families in Louisiana would like more opportunities for getting their voices heard and connecting with each other.¹ By creating a structure to routinely involve communities, families, and local partners, the Louisiana MCH Block Grant program can ensure that our activities empower our clients and address their most pressing health needs.

What we plan to do:

- Develop a plan to routinely engage families and partner agencies in creative formats to obtain their insights on current/future activities.
- Implement an identified model of family/community engagement and/or leadership development in at least 3 programs and evaluate progress.
- Convene parents in local forums with a focus on Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting (MIECHV) participant graduates and women in the Office of Public health reproductive health clinics.

Please share your thoughts!

Tell us what you think about the MCH Block Grant in Louisiana!

Visit www.surveymonkey.com/r/TitleV_LA!

Frequently Asked Questions about the Louisiana MCH Block Grant:

What is the MCH Block Grant?

The MCH Block Grant is a grant from the US government that provides about \$12 million to Louisiana to support health programs for women, children, teens, and their families. In order to receive this grant, the state must supply “matching funds.” Louisiana provides an additional \$3 for every \$4 the federal government awards. Every year, the state applies for the grant, and every 5 years, the state conducts a statewide Needs Assessment to identify major needs.

What does the MCH Block Grant support in Louisiana?

The MCH Block Grant supports programs and activities that promote the health and well-being of women of child-bearing age, pregnant women, infants, children, teens and children and youth with special health care needs (CYSHCN). The MCH Block Grant in Louisiana funds health services, including the Parish Health Units and Children’s Special Health Services (CSHS), health education and promotion, monitoring of health data, professional training, and policy development. MCH services are important because they help identify and address the health needs of women, children, adolescents, and families in Louisiana.

Who can apply for the MCH Block Grant?

Every state applies for this grant. In Louisiana, the Bureau of Family Health (BFH) and the Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs (CYSHCN) Programs, which are in the Department of Health and Hospitals (DHH) – Office of Public Health (OPH), apply for the grant.

How does the state determine its priorities?

Every 5 years, the state is required to conduct a statewide Needs Assessment. Based on the findings of the 2015 Needs Assessment, the state has identified priorities to comprehensively address the needs of the MCH population which will guide the use of the funds in the state. National Performance measures were selected and must be reported on annually over the next 5 years.

How can I share my ideas, comments and feedback?

Feedback, ideas and comments are welcomed.

Please visit www.surveymonkey.com/r/TitleV_LA with your input.

Services of the Louisiana MCH Block Grant Program:

Partners for Healthy Babies:

**1-800-251-BABY (2229), PartnersforHealthyBabies.org,
AliadosParaBebesSanos.org**

Helpline & website connects women & families to resources and information. Confidential and 24/7.

[Facebook.com/sammythestorkphb](https://www.facebook.com/sammythestorkphb)

[Twitter.com/LouisianaPHB](https://twitter.com/LouisianaPHB)

Home Visiting Programs:

1-800-251-BABY (2229), PartnersforHealthyBabies.org

Nurse-Family Partnership

Nurse home visiting for first time moms.

Parents as Teachers Program

Certified parent educators support families in the home from pregnancy to kindergarten.

Text4baby:

text4baby.org (National Zero to Three Initiative)

Health & safety tips – from pregnancy until the child is one.

Text BABY or BEBE (Spanish texts) to 511411 to receive free weekly texts.

SIDS/Safe Sleep:

GiveYourBabySpace.com

SIDS/Safe Sleep information, resources, and videos.

Reproductive Health Resources:

HealthyChoicesLA.org

Information and resources, including a directory of reproductive health clinics that provide services for men and women including family planning, STI screening, and treatment.

Bureau of Family Health e-newsletter:

[Subscribe at PartnersforHealthyBabies.org](http://PartnersforHealthyBabies.org)

Regular e-newsletter updates from the Bureau of Family Health.

Louisiana Breastfeeding Support:

LABreastfeedingSupport.org

Enter your zip code to find a list of breastfeeding resources near you. New statewide and local resources are being added on a regular basis.

Children's Special Health Services Sub-Specialty Clinics:

<http://www.dhh.la.gov/CSHS>, 504-568-5055

Public clinics serving children and youth who have special health care needs in Louisiana, designed to minimize their disabilities and maximize their probabilities of enjoying independent and self-sufficient lives.

SmoothMovesYHT:

SmoothMovesYHT.org

A teen health information website created to help youth navigate the move to adulthood and adult health care.

The Gift:

TheGiftLA.org

Breastfeeding Hospital Designation Program for birthing facilities.

Visit the website for information and application.

Child Care Health Consultants:

lacchc.org

Health and safety trainings for child care facilities.

Maternal and Child Health Data:

PartnersforHealthyBabies.org/providers/data

Visit the website for links to data or download a form for special data requests.

Infant Mental Health Training:

Contact 504-568-3504 for more information

36 hour program for professionals who work with infants & their caregivers.