



MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH (MCH) BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM

WHAT IS THE MCH BLOCK GRANT?

The MCH Block Grant is a grant from the U.S. government that supports programs for women, children, and teens, as well as for children and youth with special health care needs and their families. The Louisiana Department of Health, Office of Public Health's Bureau of Family Health (BFH) oversees Louisiana's MCH Block Grant. We aim to keep up to date on the pressing needs of Louisiana families. Family feedback is important!

WHAT DOES THE MCH BLOCK GRANT FUND?

The MCH Block Grant pays for health programs for women, infants, children, youth, children and youth with special health care needs (CYSHCN) and their families. These programs help ensure pregnant women, women of childbearing age, infants, children, youth, and families in Louisiana have the opportunity to live healthy lives. Services include screenings for health conditions, specialty clinics, and care coordination. We also work to make sure community and health systems support families and help them thrive.

WHAT WE HEARD THAT LOUISIANA NEEDS

- Access to quality health care.
- Access to social, emotional, and mental health supports for families.
- Help finding services for children and youth 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!
- Local community leaders across the state that work to protect the health of families.
- Up to date facts on the health needs of women, children, and youth.

HEARING FROM YOU:

Every 5 years, the state does research to select its major activities for the next 5 years. In 2015, we talked and listened to women, families, and communities, looked at data about the health of people in the state, and surveyed doctors to learn about their practices. The lessons we learned led to the major needs listed above, which helped us choose our major activities. Every year, BFH continues to ask families and providers about their current needs.

AREAS OF FOCUS:



Women



Babies



Young
Children



Youth



CYSHCN



Healthcare
Systems



MCH BLOCK GRANT GOALS AND WINS:



Women

Treating health issues can improve women's quality of life. For women who may get pregnant, improving health can lead to a healthier pregnancy. BFH aims to help women get preventive medical care.

Key Win this Year:

- ✓ With Medicaid Expansion, many women became eligible for full Medicaid coverage in July 2016, meaning they could get more services, like primary care.



Babies

Caring for a baby is hard work! BFH aims to help families breastfeed their babies and keep them safe while sleeping.

Key Win this Year:

- ✓ During the flooding crisis in the summer of 2016, BFH helped supply shelters with special cribs and boxes that are designed for newborn babies to sleep safely in emergencies.



Young Children

Catching health issues early can make treatment more effective. BFH will promote developmental, genetic, and hearing screening for young children and babies.

Key Wins this Year:

- ✓ BFH brought together a group of experts and created guidelines for care providers that make sure children get the screening they need.



Youth

Adolescence is a key time of development. Addressing health and emotional concerns early can set youth up to be healthier as adults. BFH plans to help more youth get their yearly check-up.

Key Wins this Year:

- ✓ The Adolescent School-Based Health Program is now a part of BFH. This will allow BFH to work with school clinics to promote quality adolescent healthcare.



CYSHCN

Children and youth with special health care needs (CYSHCN) require more doctor visits, medicines, and equipment. BFH will work to make sure providers help kids and teens with special needs live fulfilling lives.

Key Wins this Year:

- ✓ BFH's Children's Special Health Services held fairs across the state on caring for CYSHCN. These fairs connected over 450 providers to resources to share with youth and families.



Healthcare Systems

BFH promotes quality health systems. This includes promoting health insurance for children that meets their needs, promoting mental health services, and improving data and communication with families.

Key Wins this Year:

- ✓ BFH is promoting the Healthy Louisiana Helpline. With this helpline, families of children with special health care needs can get help with health insurance by calling or texting 1-504-300-5117.



WHERE TO LEARN MORE:

Partners for Healthy Babies:

[1-800-251-BABY \(2229\)](tel:1-800-251-BABY), 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 \(2229\)](tel:1-800-251-BABY), 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.

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.

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.

The Gift:

TheGiftLA.org

Breastfeeding Hospital Designation Program for birthing facilities.

Visit the website for information and application.

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.

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.

Infant Mental Health Training:

[Contact 504-568-3504 for more information](tel:504-568-3504)

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



TELL US WHAT YOU THINK!

Do you think Louisiana set the right goals?

- Yes
- No
- Not sure

Do you think the Louisiana Maternal and Child Health (MCH) Block Grant could help you, your family, or your community?

- Yes
- No
- Not sure

Do you know where to look to learn more about services?

- Yes
- No
- Not sure

Where do you live?

- Southeast LA
- Southwest LA
- North LA
- Central LA
- I don't live in LA

What is your role? Check all that apply.

- Pregnant or parent of newborn
- Youth or adolescent
- Adult with no children
- Parent or guardian of a child
- Parent or guardian of a child with special health care needs
- Youth with special health care needs
- Local health department employee
- State health department employee
- Other state agency employee
- Community service provider
- Elected official
- Advocate
- Other

Is there anything Louisiana missed that concerns you, your family, or your community?

Are there any opportunities in your community that we should know about?

Complete this survey by filling out now and returning to the facilitator. You can also follow the QR code, complete on https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/MCH_BlockGrant_2017 or send to Gloria Grady, 1450 Poydras Street, Rm 2013 New Orleans, LA, 70112, Gloria.Grady@la.gov.

