

# HEALTHY MOMS. STRONG BABIES.



# Here's how March of Dimes leads the fight for the health of all moms and babies:

#### RESEARCH

We fund and support research at our Prematurity Research Centers and in promising areas to find solutions and make lifesaving breakthroughs.

#### **ADVOCATE**

We fight for policies in the halls of government that prioritize the health of moms and babies.

#### **SUPPORT**

We comfort and assist moms and families throughout every stage of the pregnancy journey, even when things don't go according to plan.

#### **EDUCATE**

We offer resources and programs that help moms before, during and after pregnancy and give medical professionals the tools and best practices they need.

#### UNITE

We bring together organizations and professionals from diverse backgrounds to identify and act on solutions to improve equity and preterm birth prevention.

#### **PARTNER**

We partner with community organizations and health care providers to ensure moms and families have access to programs and services that support healthy pregnancies.

#### **EACH YEAR IN NEW MEXICO**



23,767

babies are born



2,435

babies are born prematurely



**720** 

babies are born with a birth defect



**152** 

babies die before their first birthday



32,000

women live in a maternity care desert



\$126 MILLION

is the societal cost of preterm birth

# In New Mexico, March of Dimes is a champion for families, focusing on communities with the greatest need and fighting for the best possible care for all moms and babies.

## I RESEARCH

In 2018 March of Dimes invested nearly \$20 million in research to understand, treat and prevent the serious health problems that threaten babies. This research improves the care of mothers and babies in New Mexico, throughout the United States and across the globe. At our six Prematurity Research Centers teams of brilliant minds from a range of disciplines look for answers and share discoveries to transform our understanding of preterm birth, including causes and preventions. Learn more at marchofdimes.org/research.



March of Dimes helps all women have healthy pregnancies and strong babies by providing the latest health information in English and Spanish on preconception, prenatal, postpartum and newborn care. We communicate this information through our websites, social media, and community and workplace programs.

### **ADVOCATE**

March of Dimes is a powerful voice for the needs of pregnant women, infants, children and families in New Mexico. In 2018 March of Dimes successfully advocated for legislation reforming the state Medicaid program's step therapy prescription drug policy.



March of Dimes New Mexico convenes cross-sector partners around critical maternal and child health issues to influence policy change and quality improvement initiatives. March of Dimes educates and trains health care providers and community members around progesterone shots (17P) and low-dose aspirin use for preeclampsia. In addition to these initiatives, March of Dimes works closely with the Office of African American Affairs and CityMatCH to lead efforts around birth equity and improving birth outcomes for Black mothers and babies.

## SUPPORT

March of Dimes helps families when a pregnancy doesn't go according to plan. In 2018 we launched the My NICU Baby™ app, providing free, easy to use information for all NICU families. Through the online Share Your Story® site and Facebook mentoring program, we bring together families impacted by the biggest health threats to mom and baby. We also educate families and staff and improve the NICU experience through our NICU Family Support® program in **Albuquerque** and our Training Institute for health care professionals.



In order to improve the quality of care that women and babies receive in New Mexico, we work closely with cross-sector partners to support better outcomes for moms and babies. We partner with community organizations and health care providers to ensure moms and families have access to programs and services that support healthy pregnancies.

**SOURCES AND NOTES:** Births and preterm births—National Center for Health Statistics, final natality 2017. Preterm is less than 37 weeks gestation. Birth defects—Based on CDC estimate that 1 in 33 babies is born with one or more birth defect. Infant mortality—NCHS, infant mortality, 2016. Women living in maternity care desert—"Nowhere to Go", March of Dimes, 2018. Cost of preterm birth—Institute of Medicine report, 2007.

#### **JOIN THE FIGHT**

Because of friends like you, we can provide programs, tools and support for all moms and babies.



