



# 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.

### 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.

### ADVOCATE

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

### UNITE

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

### SUPPORT

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

### 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 OREGON



**43,631**

babies are born



**3,640**

babies are born prematurely



**1,320**

babies are born with a birth defect



**214**

babies die before their first birthday



**6,000**

women live in a maternity care desert



**\$188 MILLION**

is the societal cost of preterm birth

# In Oregon, 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.

## 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 Oregon, 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](http://marchofdimes.org/research).

## ADVOCATE

March of Dimes is a powerful voice for the needs of pregnant women, infants, children and families in Oregon. In 2018 March of Dimes successfully advocated for legislation to establish a state maternal mortality and morbidity review committee, improve reimbursement for child hearing aids and devices and increase the cigarette tax by \$0.30 per pack.

## 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 **Portland** and our Training Institute for health care professionals.

## EDUCATE

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. March of Dimes, in partnership with the Oregon Perinatal Collaborative, convened a statewide Perinatal Summit to bring public health and maternity care providers together to share optimal maternity care practices.

## UNITE

In Oregon, March of Dimes convenes the Oregon Perinatal Collaborative, a group of health care leaders who advocate for improved maternal and neonatal outcomes through implementation of evidence-based practice and policy change. As well, we work to eliminate health disparities for all moms and babies by leading the Oregon Nutrition Forum to improve the nutritional status of women of childbearing age in rural areas and communities of color throughout the state. Finally, we convene summits with the Tribal and Urban Indian Health leaders to reduce preterm birth and maternal mortality in our indigenous populations by disseminating evidence-based interventions.

## PARTNER

In Oregon, March of Dimes collaborates with hospitals, health systems, Medicaid, the Oregon Health Authority, and community-based organizations to eliminate disparities in birth outcomes, reduce maternal mortality and ensure that all Oregonians have access to quality maternity and neonatal care. In 2018, in collaboration with the Washington March of Dimes and the Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board, we convened a Tri-state Tribal Pregnancy Health Summit to share best practices to improve pregnancy outcomes in our Native communities.

**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.

JOIN US

[MARCHOFDIMES.ORG](http://MARCHOFDIMES.ORG)

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