



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 KENTUCKY



54,752

babies are born



6,092

babies are born prematurely



1,650

babies are born with a birth defect



376

babies die before their first birthday



330,000

women live in a maternity care desert



\$314 MILLION

is the societal cost of preterm birth

In Kentucky, 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 Kentucky, 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.

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.

ADVOCATE

March of Dimes is a powerful voice for the needs of pregnant women, infants, children and families in Kentucky. In 2018 March of Dimes secured **two legislative wins** by advocating for legislation to increase tobacco taxes by \$0.50 per pack of cigarettes and supporting legislation that permits treatment for substance-using incarcerated pregnant women and also prohibits the use of restraints during labor, delivery, or postpartum recovery under normal circumstances.

UNITE

In Kentucky, we collaborate with hospitals, community organizations, and state organizations to reduce the rate of preterm birth. With our partners, we aim to reduce the number of pregnant women who smoke and aim to increase the use of progesterone shots (17P) to prevent repeat premature births. Through these collaborations we provide 17P education to **10,000 women** through local health departments in every county. We also partner with University of Kentucky Hospital to support programs for pregnant women with substance use disorders and with local hospitals to improve patient access to resources to prevent substance and tobacco use.

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.

PARTNER

March of Dimes Kentucky, the Department for Public Health and the Kentucky Perinatal Association reconvened the Perinatal Quality Collaborative to reduce the rates of preterm birth and to reduce the number of pregnant women who smoke or use illicit substances. We hold regional meetings across the state to educate professionals on health disparities and the use of 17P to prevent recurring preterm birth and group prenatal care. The partnership holds a maternal and child health meeting reaching **300 professionals**.

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

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