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 MISSOURI

73,034 babies are born
7,702 babies are born prematurely
2,210 babies are born with a birth defect
492 babies die before their first birthday
290,000 women live in a maternity care desert
$397 MILLION is the societal cost of preterm birth
In Missouri, 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 Missouri, throughout the United States and across the globe. At our six Prematurity Research Centers (PRCs) teams of scientists look for answers and share discoveries to transform our understanding of preterm birth. In 2014 March of Dimes joined with Washington University in St. Louis to launch our third PRC. 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 Missouri. In 2018 March of Dimes secured six legislative wins by becoming the first state to expand Medicaid coverage for mental health and substance use disorder treatment services to eligible women for one year postpartum; securing funding for a Medicaid pilot program to reduce the prevalence of neonatal abstinence syndrome, advocating for legislation to prohibit the use of restraints for incarcerated women in their third trimester or postpartum in certain instances and defeating attempts proposing disciplinary actions against substance-using pregnant women.

UNITE

March of Dimes Missouri works to unite leaders in communities around a common goal of improving the health of moms and babies to help strengthen communities overall. In addition to the health care and services families receive, we strive to better understand the communities where people live and work, as well as the impact of those areas on quality of health. To do this, we bring non-traditional partners to the table and include those in education, housing, safety or transportation.

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 four NICU Family Support® programs operating in Missouri hospitals and our Training Institute for health care professionals.

PARTNER

March of Dimes Missouri fosters partnerships across the state to improve the health of moms and babies. Partners include community organizations, health care providers, and local and state health departments. March of Dimes is a member of the Kansas City Health Commission’s Birth Outcomes Monitoring Committee and has been involved with FLOURISH St. Louis, a collective impact initiative aimed at reducing infant mortality.