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 JERSEY**

- **101,250** babies are born
- **9,613** babies are born prematurely
- **3,060** babies are born with a birth defect
- **414** babies die before their first birthday
- **$496 MILLION** is the societal cost of preterm birth
In New Jersey, 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 New Jersey, 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. Princeton University is a collaborating institution of the PRC University of Chicago-Northwestern-Duke. 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 New Jersey. In 2018 March of Dimes successfully advocated for legislation to allow pregnant employees the use of shared leave to bond with their newborn, adoptive or foster child. Additionally, March of Dimes championed legislation to require the study of childhood fatalities and near fatalities, with an emphasis on racial and ethnic disparities to determine their contribution to infant mortality.

**UNITE**

In New Jersey, March of Dimes connects multi-sector partners around critical maternal and child health issues to influence local and state-level policy changes and funding priorities. We convene stakeholders through our **Healthy Babies are Worth the Wait®** community program in Newark and Burlington and work collectively to improve birth outcomes with a focus on clinical interventions, systems change, access to care and health equity.

**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 **Trenton** and our Training Institute for health care professionals.

**PARTNER**

March of Dimes provides maternal and child health expertise in communities throughout the state. We work with organizations and health care providers to ensure moms and families have access to programs and services that support healthy pregnancies, such as group prenatal care and interconception care.

**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. Cost of preterm birth — Institute of Medicine report, 2007.