



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 OKLAHOMA



50,214

babies are born



5,592

babies are born prematurely



1,520

babies are born with a birth defect



393

babies die before their first birthday



240,000

women live in a maternity care desert



\$289 MILLION

is the societal cost of preterm birth

In Oklahoma, 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 Oklahoma, 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 Oklahoma. In 2018 March of Dimes Oklahoma successfully advocated for legislation prohibiting the use of restraints on incarcerated pregnant women during labor and the immediate postpartum period. Oklahoma advocates also defeated legislative attempts to weaken immunization protections.

UNITE

Using a health equity lens, March of Dimes Oklahoma has convened key leaders through the Oklahoma Perinatal Quality Improvement Collaborative and built a network of providers implementing IMPLICIT, a program aimed at addressing maternal health issues during the well-child visit. We are aligning strategic work to complement continuous statewide efforts to address both infant and maternal mortality and morbidity in Oklahoma. These efforts include: addressing substance use among pregnant women, utilization of progesterone shots (17P) to prevent prematurity, increasing the use of long-acting reversible contraceptives and decreasing the rate of tobacco use among pregnant women.

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 has developed a number of partnerships to bring about systems change to improve birth outcomes in Oklahoma. These partners include the state Department of Health and quality improvement, preconception and infant mortality collaboratives and the State Department of Health. Working collaboratively allows us to create a shared vision to impact all moms and babies. Collectively we address infant mortality in African-American communities in Oklahoma County and maternal mortality to decrease maternal deaths and the high rate of maternity care deserts.

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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