



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 SOUTH CAROLINA



57,029

babies are born



6,396

babies are born prematurely



1,720

babies are born with a birth defect



402

babies die before their first birthday



50,000

women live in a maternity care desert



\$330 MILLION

is the societal cost of preterm birth

In South Carolina, 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 South Carolina, 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. In South Carolina, March of Dimes convenes and supports state and regional conferences to increase provider and partner education about birth outcomes and the perinatal period (the period immediately before and after birth).

ADVOCATE

March of Dimes is a powerful voice for the needs of pregnant women, infants, children and families in South Carolina. In 2018 March of Dimes successfully advocated for legislation to provide education on safe sleep practices, sudden unexplained infant death syndrome and shaken baby syndrome to new parents prior to leaving the hospital. South Carolina advocates also worked collaboratively to support legislation protecting women from discrimination and providing reasonable accommodations for pregnancy, childbirth and related medical conditions.

UNITE

March of Dimes serves on the Vision Team for the South Carolina Birth Outcomes Initiative. We also serve in an advocacy advisory role on the South Carolina Tobacco Free Coalition. March of Dimes works to strategically align our initiatives and activities to complement these ongoing efforts to address infant and maternal mortality and morbidity in South Carolina.

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

PARTNER

In South Carolina we partner with a statewide initiative to implement the IMPLICIT Interconception Care model. IMPLICIT incorporates maternal assessments into well-child visits. Women who are no longer in a doctor's care themselves will still bring their infant to well child visits. This allows the health care provider to screen the woman for modifiable health behaviors that can affect subsequent pregnancies. These include tobacco use, depression, birth spacing and folic acid use.

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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