



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 TEXAS



382,050

babies are born



40,403

babies are born prematurely



11,570

babies are born with a birth defect



2,277

babies die before their first birthday



490,000

women live in a maternity care desert



\$2.1 BILLION

is the societal cost of preterm birth

In Texas, 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 Texas, throughout the United States and across the globe. At our **six Prematurity Research Centers** (PRCs) teams of scientists from a range of disciplines look for answers and share discoveries to transform our understanding of preterm birth. Texas A&M University and the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center are both collaborating institutions of the PRC at Washington University in St. Louis. Learn more at marchofdimes.org/research.

ADVOCATE

March of Dimes is a powerful voice for the needs of pregnant women, infants, children and families in Texas. In 2018 March of Dimes successfully advocated to raise the minimum age to purchase tobacco to 21 in San Antonio. Advocates also supported legislation to establish a standard level of maternal care in hospitals and birthing centers across the state to support the health of mothers in health care facilities.

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 **two NICU Family Support® programs** operating in Texas hospitals and our Training Institute for health care professionals.

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 2018 March of Dimes educated more than **14,000 Texan women** on topics related to better birth outcomes utilizing resources and programs such as Becoming a Mom, Stork's Nest®, Hope Chest and group prenatal care.

UNITE

March of Dimes Texas works closely with maternal and child health leaders across the state through the Texas Collaborative for Healthy Moms and Babies. This perinatal quality collaborative uses March of Dimes leadership to create a bridge to local providers across the state to address birth spacing through the One Key Question® (OKQ) program. The Collaborative recruited and trained five clinics across the state this year in OKQ and is recruiting 50 additional clinics.

PARTNER

In Texas, March of Dimes has leveraged our various partners to promote the use of progesterone shots (17P) to lower the incidence of preterm birth. The 17P Workgroup consists of Medicaid managed care organizations, health care providers, state agencies, and city and county health departments. The workgroup addresses policy barriers to 17P administration and shares stakeholders' successes in improving access.

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

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