



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 FLORIDA



223,630

babies are born



22,851

babies are born prematurely



6,770

babies are born with a birth defect



1,382

babies die before their first birthday



70,000

women live in a maternity care desert



\$1.2 BILLION

is the societal cost of preterm birth

In Florida, 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 Florida, 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.

ADVOCATE

March of Dimes is a powerful voice for the needs of pregnant women, infants, children and families in Florida. In 2018 March of Dimes secured **five legislative wins** by protecting funding in the budget for the state's newborn screening program and the Florida Birth Defects Registry, advocating for a maternal mental health educational campaign and supporting legislation to add both MPS-1 and Pompe to the state's newborn screening panel.

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

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.

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 Florida we educate moms and providers on progesterone shots (17P), birth spacing, low-dose aspirin, postpartum care and group prenatal care. We partner with the Zeta Phi Beta Inc. sorority to bring prenatal education through the Stork's Nest® program.

UNITE

March of Dimes leads the Florida Prematurity Prevention Partnership (FPPP), a statewide partnership among maternal and child health leaders, agencies and organizations within communities and at the state level. The FPPP serves as the statewide structure to implement evidence-based interventions, targeting communities with high rates of preterm birth. In Broward County, we use a health equity focus and a Collective Impact framework to engage partners to decrease the rates of preterm births, infant mortality and racial disparities. With **20 partners** we implement shared strategies that focus on women having healthy pregnancies and positive birth outcomes.

PARTNER

March of Dimes leads a workgroup of providers, state agencies, health plans, pharmacists and industry partners to improve access to 17P to prevent repeat preterm births. The workgroup addresses policy barriers for 17P and streamlines the ordering and administration process for 17P, a treatment which can reduce preterm births by **33 percent** in eligible pregnant women. The Department of Health supports our prematurity prevention efforts by providing **\$135,000** in matching funds to support local activities.

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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