



Annual Report for Fiscal Year

April 1, 2016 – March 31, 2017

Mission

Every child deserves a healthy start; it is the best gift a community can give its children and itself. Mother & Child Health Coalition works together with community partners and families to promote wellness and advocate excellence in health care.

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Kansas Department of Health and Environment

MCHC Vision

Letter from the Executive Director

Mother & Child Health Coalition’s (MCHC) vision is that every mother and child in greater Kansas City will be healthy. MCHC believes that healthy families make healthy communities.

During the past year, the MCHC board, staff and committees continued to work on activities related to the five priority initiatives for MCHC— infant mortality, childhood injury prevention, immunizations, childhood obesity, and breastfeeding. Progress on these activities is described in the pages to follow. Thousands of volunteer hours contributed by the various committee members, as well as several college students and interns enhanced many of our program and operation activities.

On behalf of the MCHC staff and Board of Directors, we want to thank all of our members, partners, and volunteers for your ongoing support of the Coalition and for the work that you do every day to keep mothers, children, and families healthy. Your continued support, collaboration, energy and innovative ideas are vital. You inspire us to keep on working towards our goal that every family can celebrate their child’s first birthday and beyond.



*Susan S. McLoughlin, MSN, RN, CPNP
Executive Director*



Kansas City Healthy Start Initiative

Jean Craig, Ph.D.

Project Coordinator

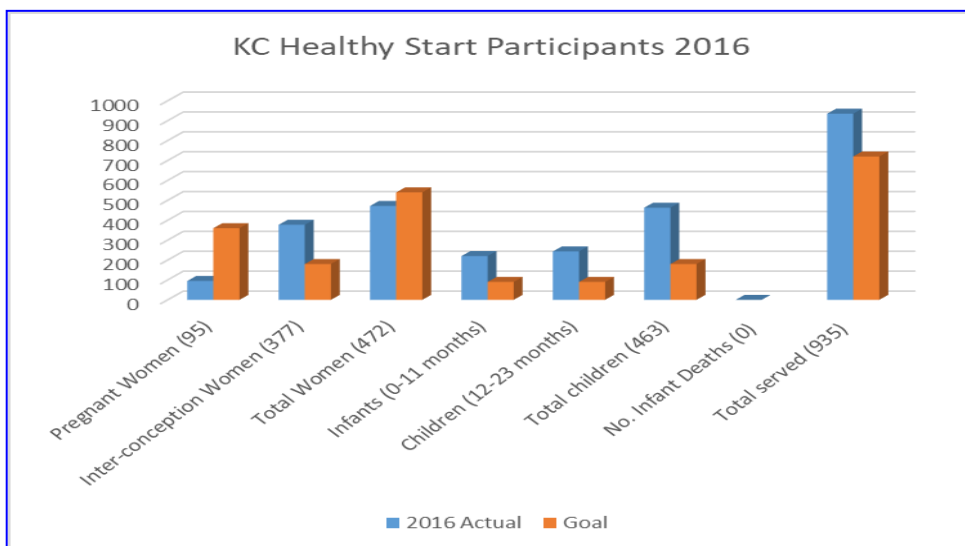
Program Description:

As a program of Mother & Child Health Coalition (MCHC), the overall goal of the Kansas City Healthy Start Initiative (KCHSI) is the elimination of disparities in perinatal health throughout greater Kansas City. Five approaches are employed at two tiered levels to address this goal. These approaches include: 1) Improve Women’s Health 2) Promote Quality Services 3) Strengthen Family Resilience 4) Achieve Collective Impact and 5) Increase Accountability through Quality Improvement, Performance Monitoring, and Evaluation. At Level 1, the approaches focus on the specific areas of support for women and young children enrolled in KCHSI and their families. KCHSI’s goal is to provide services to at least 720 women during the grant year. (50% pregnant women, 25% interconception women, (women who are at a point between one birth and the next conception) 25% children of interconception women up to 2 years old) from 6 ZIP code areas in Wyandotte County, KS and 10 ZIP code areas in Jackson County, MO. KCHSI also strategizes to provide resource services to the father of the enrolled child, or the woman’s male significant other. Participants are referred primarily by two Federally Qualified Health Centers - Samuel U. Rodgers Health Center and Swope Health Services (SHS). At Level 2, the approaches focus on programmatic and systemic change to extend the support for women, young children, and families throughout the five county greater Kansas City area. These approaches include activities with the Community Action Network and collaborators.

Activities Accomplished:

- A total of 935 participants were served during the 2016 calendar year. (See Table 1 for 2016 enrollment/service information.)

Table 1:



- Data Collection System Improvements: The REDCap data base was implemented as the new system and is being used to collect data at both Healthy Start sites. The Community Health Worker (CHW) teams received training and refresher review sessions and are currently utilizing the system for data input. All activities are being monitored by the Evaluation Team, from the UMKC Institute for Human Development.
- Staff Training - All CHWs received the following training:
 - ASQ(3) and ASQ(2) SE Training
 - Breastfeeding 101
 - CARE Workshop
 - Creating Trauma Informed and Accessible Agencies
 - Forms Training
 - Goal Setting/Stress Management
 - Mental Health First Aid
 - National Healthy Start EPIC Center Screening Tools Roll-Out webinar
 - Parents as Teachers (PAT) Foundational Training curriculum.
 - Postpartum Depression
 - Pregnancy Loss
 - Preventing Youth from Becoming Victims of Violence: A Community Discussion
 - Reach Out & Read
 - Think, Act, Grow Teen Summit





FIMR Program Coordinator

Brief Program Description:

The Fetal Infant Mortality Review (FIMR) program was implemented in 2005 by MCHC to intensify the focus on reducing infant mortality and health care disparities in the community. The FIMR program is an action-oriented process where cases are reviewed to determine the factors contributing to the fetal or infant death, trends are identified, and then recommendations for change are developed. By design, the FIMR program allows us to review detailed accounts of each fetal and infant death in ten ZIP code areas in Kansas City, Missouri: 64109, 64110, 64123, 64124, 64127, 64128, 64130, 64131, 64132 and 64134.

The Kansas City FIMR program is a two-tiered process. The Case Review Team (CRT) methodically analyzes individual cases in depth and makes recommendations for action. The Community Action Team (CAT) works with the CRT and translates the recommendations into relevant community action. This CAT works within the Birth Outcomes Monitoring Committee (formerly known as the Women, Infants and Children's Health Committee) of the Kansas City Missouri Health Commission.

Accomplishments of the CRT and the CAT

Since 2005, 210 cases of fetal and infant deaths have been reviewed by the CRT.

Trends of health issues identified within the FIMR population of women with a loss:

- late or no prenatal care
- addiction to alcohol, tobacco and/or drugs
- obesity
- mothers with a history of asthma.

The CAT first chose to work on barriers to early prenatal care, which include the cost of a pregnancy test for proof of pregnancy, and confusing issues with the Medicaid enrollment process.

Accomplishments:

- A survey of providers and the cost of their pregnancy test was completed and then listed in the MCHC Resource Guide for distribution.
- In July 2015, the Kansas City Health Commission's Women, Infants, and Children's Health Committee (WICHHC) focused on identifying barriers to early prenatal care including access and Medicaid enrollment. The resulting White Paper focused on concerns about confusing issues with the Medicaid enrollment process. This paper is the basis for continuing conversation with the state and is used to monitor what providers are experiencing since changes in Medicaid enrollment.

Mary Jean Brown, MS, RNA

Safe Sleep Task Force Coordinator

Brief Program Description:

The Safe Sleep Task Force (SSTF), a program of MCHC, combines the expertise of the FIMR program, the Child Death Review Panel (of the MODHSS) and Infant Loss Resources, Inc. to reduce the number of infant deaths due to unsafe sleep conditions in Jackson County, MO. Black babies are at 3 times the risk of white babies dying from unsafe sleep practices. The highest risk of death to newborns 0-2 months of age is co-sleeping with an adult.

Data from the Jackson County Medical Examiner for Jackson County, MO for calendar year in which any case where unsafe sleep was in place:

2015: 13 deaths

2016: 13 deaths. (One was ruled a natural death, but the baby was in an unsafe sleep environment.)

Goal: To educate caregivers of newborns in safe sleep practices. Caregivers include family members, day care providers and babysitters.

Who: Mothers who are in their 3rd trimester of pregnancy and meet the federal poverty guidelines, or families with babies under 6 months of age are eligible to receive a crib if they do not have a crib for their newborn.

What: Provide safe sleep education and a free Pak 'n Play crib to mothers in need.

Where: Families living in Jackson County, MO, and Wyandotte County, KS.

When: Education and crib distribution will continue as long as funds for cribs are available.

Partner Agencies: As of March 2017, the following 8 agencies in Wyandotte County are crib partner agencies: KCKS #500 Parents as Teachers, Turner School District #202 Parents as Teachers, The Family Conservancy, Catholic Charities of Northeast Kansas, Turner Clinic, Wyandotte County Infant Toddler Services and Healthy Start Wyandotte. In Missouri, the following 4 agencies are crib partners: Start at Zero, Front Porch Alliance, Newhouse Domestic Violence Shelter and Kansas City Missouri School District Parents as Teachers.

Activities accomplished:

- Safe Sleep Task Force partnered with agency personnel to become a safe sleep instructor who would educate their own clientele.
- A process has been set in place to track crib distribution, as well as a way to collate the data gathered from the crib recipients.
- A Survey Monkey on the MCHC website allows women in need, or their agency, to complete the survey, notifying Safe Sleep Task Force of their need for a crib. The applicant is contacted and referred to a partner for education and a crib.
- Monthly safe sleep classes are held at each of the two Babies R US stores in the city: Kansas City (north), MO and Overland Park, KS. Cribs are not distributed to participants of these classes.

Grants:

Sixty cribs from a KDHE grant were given to partner agencies for distribution to their clients.

Sixty-five cribs were distributed to partners in MO from a grant from Home State Health managed care provider. Grant money was received in March 2017 from Sunflower Managed Care for crib distribution in Wyandotte County. Distribution took place in April.



Mid America Immunization Coalition

DuJuan Hord

Program Coordinator

Co-Chairs: Cindy Olson Burgess, Children's Mercy Hospital

Nancy Tausz, Johnson County Health Department

Brief Description:

Mid America Immunization Coalition's mission is to work to protect families in Clay, Jackson and Platte counties in Missouri, and Johnson and Wyandotte counties in Kansas against vaccine-preventable diseases through collaboration, advocacy and education.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN 2016-17

Structure of MAIC: In order to increase the number of active members who share common interest in promoting and supporting the mission and vision of the Mid America Immunization Coalition, a new co-chair from the Kansas side was named. Discussions were held with the Chief, Bureau of Immunizations for the State of Missouri and the Deputy Director, Bureau of Disease Control for the State of Kansas to identify and discuss the needs of the both states. DuJuan Hord attended various partners' immunization meetings and training opportunities to learn more about vaccination updates and changes. He also attended meetings and webinars of the Immunize Kansas Coalition and Immunization Action Coalition to assist him in providing education and knowledge on improving immunization efforts. A long-term, strategic plan with operating guidelines was developed, in order to provide a better structure for MAIC membership and assure a strong future for the Coalition.

MAIC Membership Meetings: Provided timely information on a range of immunization issues of importance to health providers and the public, in an educational, convenient lunch-and-learn format. Presentations by experts in the field, are designed to provide information that can be used in the work place. Informal settings allow for attendees to ask questions of the experts.

3-9-16 Adolescent Vaccines

9-14-16 Back to School Vaccine Update

12/14/16 Vaccine Update

Flu Clinics - Conducted 16 free flu clinics at several locations in metropolitan Kansas City area, on both sides of the state line, during the 2016-2017 flu season, and administered 1,071 doses of flu vaccine to people who may not have otherwise received the vaccine. This is a project of MAIC in partnership with Walgreens Pharmacy, funded by the US Department of Health and Human Services, Region VII.

Safe Kids Metro KC



DuJuan Hord
Program Coordinator

Brief Description:

Safe Kids Metro KC Coalition's mission is to reduce preventable childhood injuries for children 0 – 19 years of age in Clay, Platte, Jackson counties in Missouri and Wyandotte County in Kansas. Priority areas include: Child Passenger Safety, Fire/Burn Prevention, Poison Prevention and Safe Sleep.

Accomplishments:

DuJuan Hord was hired as the new program coordinator in August. Since then, he has:

- Attended monthly and/or quarterly policy and advisory meetings to help provide direction and guidance to community partners to help meet the needs of the community and families.
- Attended monthly and/or quarterly state of Missouri and Kansas injury priority committee meetings.
- Actively participated in the Safe Kids Kansas Coalition meeting, Drive Wisely Wyandotte, MARC's Destination Safe, First Impact – Graduated Driver's License, Charlies House trainings to name a few.
- Completed a 32 hour National training course to become certified as a Child Passenger Safety Technician.
- Completed an RFP/proposal for GRACO Car Seats to receive funding to provide car seats to community partners and organizations.
- Hosted strategy planning meetings with community partners to take part in car seat Buckle Up Events which would provide car seats to families in the areas we serve.
- Attended the Safe Kids Worldwide Convention to learn new ideas and strategies from other Safe Kids coordinators and Safe Kids leaders.
- Established an Annual Safe Kids Day Event which provides information about all that Safe Kids Provides.
- Partnered with Children's Mercy Kansas City, City of Kansas City Missouri, Safe Kids Johnson County, Wyandotte County and Clay County Public Health in hosting the annual Child Safety Initiative Conference - CSI – April 8, 2016.



Metro KC Safe Haven for Newborns Coalition

Anne Biswell, Coordinator

Purpose: Safe Havens provide a legal option to birth parents who are not ready to raise a child and feel their only option is to abandon the baby. Relinquishing the baby at a Safe Haven location ensures the baby is left in a safe place with those who can provide the immediate care needed for the baby's safety and well-being. This group is charged with increasing public knowledge of the Safe Haven for Newborns laws in MO and KS, utilizing various methods of outreach to the community.

Activities:

- **Meetings:** Chaired Safe Haven Coalition meetings March, May, July, September and November.
- **Signs:** Completed distribution of signs for law enforcement stations on the Kansas side.
- **MCHC staff** helped organize and participated in 2nd Annual Safe Haven for Newborns Day, April 6, 2017 for Child Abuse Prevention month.
- **Requested and received** Safe Haven Day proclamation from Mayor Sly James, Kansas City MO.
- **Collected** a total of 10 Safe Haven Day proclamations around greater KC metro.
- **Submitted** a [letter to the editor](#) for Child Abuse Prevention month.
- **Publicity:** Local news covered Safe Haven for Newborns Day, Thursday, April 6 and the links for the interviews are on the [Safe Haven page](#) on the MCHC website.
- Shared the link for [Missouri training module](#) created by Nick Silverio, FL Safe Haven with partners throughout Missouri and Kansas.
- **Missouri Safe Infant Relinquishments as of January:** 47 (From MODHSS)
- **Kansas Relinquishments:** 10.
- **Kansas City area** relinquishments as reported on the Safe Haven website to date: 4

Resources:

- **Display:** The Safe Haven table-top display and handouts were shown at MCHC meetings.
- **Web training:** Available on our MCHC [website](#) courtesy of Nick Silverio, FL Safe Haven.
- **Social Media:** Using Face Book and Twitter. See our [SH Facebook page](#).
- **Power Point:** (<http://mhc.net/programs/safe-haven-newborns/>)

Legislative/Advocacy Committee

Audrey Dunkel, JD

Kansas Hospital Association

Stephanie Seger, MSW, MA

Children's Mercy Hospitals and Clinics

Brief Committee Description:

The committee participates in and develops activities that will promote and improve awareness regarding MCHC's Advocacy Priorities.

Primary Priorities:

- Access to Care (Access to Health Coverage, Services, Providers of Care, Prescription Coverage and to the Health Insurance Marketplace)
- Infant Mortality Reduction and Prevention
- Early Learning

Secondary Priorities:

- Childhood Obesity Reduction and Prevention
- Immunizations
- Child Safety
- Breastfeeding

Accomplishments:

- The committee is working to position Mother & Child Health Coalition as the go-to organization on infant mortality in the bi-state, Kansas City metro region.
- The Annual Legislative Advocacy Meeting, Oct. 2016 featured Tim Decker, Director, Children's Division, Missouri Department of Social Services who provided the keynote address. Other presentations included Missouri Budgetary Issues, Amy Blouin, Executive Director, Missouri Budget Project; Early Childhood Education, Reggi Rideout, Raise Your Hand for Kids; Kansas Children's Issues, Amanda Gress, Director of Government Relations, Kansas Action for Children; Kansas Budgetary Issues, Heidi Holliday, Executive Director, Kansas Center for Economic Growth and Children's Services Fund: A Jackson County Ballot Initiative, Barb Friedmann and Lisa Mizell, Children's Services Fund. 42 people attended.
- The committee created a spreadsheet to track legislation of pertinence to the MCHC Advocacy Priorities.

Significant work has been done to promote legislation related to MCHC's Advocacy Priorities:

- Numerous Kansas legislators have been contacted and asked to support KanCare expansion and budget reform

MCHC has provided written testimony on KanCare expansion, as noted in the following written testimony:

- February 8, 2017 written testimony to the Kansas legislature
- February 28, 2017 written testimony to the Kansas Senate Committee on Public Health and Welfare
- Kansas registered dental therapists, noted in its February 13, 2017 written testimony to the Kansas House Health and Human Services Committee

Metro KC Breastfeeding Collaborative

Ximena Ilabaca-Somoza, MPH

Clay County Public Health Center

Karen Wambach, PhD, RN, IBCLC, FILCA

University of Kansas School of Nursing

Brief Description:

The Metro Kansas City Breastfeeding Collaborative seeks to collaborate to increase breastfeeding initiation and duration rates in the metropolitan area.

Goal 1:

To further develop the Metro KC Breastfeeding Collaborative by outreach activities to new and existing partners who share common interest in promoting and supporting breastfeeding in the metro Kansas City area.

Accomplishments:

- Created working groups (Worksite Lactation, Strategic Planning, and Pediatric Practice Survey)
- Developed a list of attendees to the Breastfeeding 101 event.
- Created a strategic partnership plan, using the already-existing list of potential partners and incorporating attendance at the Breastfeeding 101 event.
- Developed an educational calendar for collaborative meetings on a quarterly basis.

Goal 2:

To increase the number of employers in the greater Kansas City Metro area that have worksite lactation support policies in place.

Accomplishments:

Developed and conducted a survey of metro KC employers to assess their organizations' policies and practices related to breastfeeding support in the workplace.

Increased the number of employers who have received the MCHC Employer Support for Nursing Mothers Award to 40 (from a current baseline of 22).

Grants Awarded:

- Health Education and Active Living (HEAL) funding stream. B.E. Education Group has been subcontracted with to carry out the work of this project.
- Women's Foundation grant related to Breastfeeding KC, Phase 2

The following businesses received the **Employer Support for Nursing Mothers Award in 2016-2017:**

- American Academy of Family Physicians
- Olathe Family YMCA Child Development Center
- Prairie Christian Center Childcare

- Kauffman Foundation Conference Center
- Lexmark, Lenexa, KS
- Parkhill School District
- City of Kearney, MO
- Shawnee Mission Medical Center

Goal 3:

Using the findings from the Breastfeeding KC Project, develop a three-year strategic plan.

Accomplishments:

- Drafted a strategic plan to reflect the results of the research.
- Reviewed available grants that will help the Collaborative fund its planning goals, objectives and strategic plan over the next 3 years.
- Funding was acquired for The Business Case for Breastfeeding
- Funding has also been acquired from the Health Care Foundation of Greater Kansas City for Breastfeeding KC, Phase 2.

Goal 4:

Engage at least two pediatric practices in the greater Kansas City area to develop a system for collecting data on any breastfeeding, exclusivity, and duration among 2, 4, and 6-month-old infants.

Accomplishments:

- A survey for providers (regarding the method by which physicians are interacting with their patients in relation to breastfeeding and what data they are acquiring related to breastfeeding) was disseminated to both Kansas and Missouri Chapters of the American Academy of Pediatrics.

Metro KC Youth Collaborative

Miguel Jaramillo
Reece Commercial
Judith Westmoreland, JD
Jackson County CASA

Brief Committee Description:

The Metro KC Youth Collaborative seeks to bring together youth development, prevention, health care providers, and others who impact youth to share resources, network and collaborate. The work of the Youth Collaborative centers on the Five Promises of America's Promise and Search Institute's Forty Developmental Assets to bring best practices to youth in our community.

Goal 1:

Enhance the work of youth-serving organizations in metropolitan KC by fostering an environment for structured networking, facilitating the connection of these organizations and the sharing of relevant information.

Objectives:

1. The collaborative will engage participating entities in networking and resource sharing, using various tools, including those of collective impact. By April of 2017, a document will have been created (using the networking sessions of the collaborative meetings) that addresses current activities and resources of participating entities.
 - a. By the end of November 2016, an evaluation of this first objective will be created to assess the effectiveness of networking opportunities.
2. By April 2017, the collaborative will have progressed its vision for youth violence prevention through the involvement of other organizations by increasing participation in its meetings/events among those organizations working with youth. There will be 20% growth in the number of people involved in meetings of the collaborative.
 - By April 2017, the Metro KC Youth Collaborative will have identified and recorded which organizations in the metro KC area are already working on some form of violence prevention among youth.

Activities in the 4th quarter to accomplish objectives:

- Pertaining to objective 2:
 - The Youth Collaborative met in conjunction with the MCHC January Quarterly Meeting. The meeting was based on trauma-informed care.
 - 42 people were in attendance at the January Quarterly/Youth Collaborative Meeting. This is 4 persons higher than the average attendance for the current fiscal year.
 - Plans are under way to supply schools or school districts with educational opportunities for teachers as well as administrators related to mental health first aid, trauma-informed care, and bullying.

Pregnancy, Infant, and Child Health Committee

Theresa Rodgers Campbell
Kansas City Kansas Community College
Chair

Brief Committee Description:

The committee participates in and develops activities that will improve pregnancy outcomes for mothers and promote and improve infant and child health.

Goal:

Educate the provider community on issues surrounding poverty and its impact upon pregnancy outcomes in the metro KC area.

Accomplishments:

- Formed partnerships, using collective impact tools, to reduce the negative impact of poverty among pregnant and parenting women in the metro KC area.
- Held a series of conversations with decision-makers within hospitals and private clinics on infant mortality and parent/child access, with the aim of identifying successes of various providers as well as areas where providers may improve their efforts.

Quarterly Meetings

February: **The Role of the Missouri Dept. of Health & Senior Services MCH Services Program in Addressing Infant Mortality & Improving Care for Children.** The presenters at this meeting were:

- Nola Martz, EdS, MSN RN, Northwest District Nurse Consultant, Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services
- Martha J. Smith, MSN, RN, LNHA, Program Manager, Maternal Child Health Services, Missouri Department of Health & Senior Services

September: **Poverty & Health: The Faith-Based Impact**

- Starla Brennan, Operations Director, Metro Lutheran Ministry
- Eva Schulte, Communities Creating Opportunity (Invited)

November: **Head Start Home-Based Program**

- Terri English, Head Start Family/Child Home-based Program Manager, The Family Conservancy.

For additional information about activities and programs, and to donate to Mother & Child Health Coalition, please visit us at www.mchc.net or contact us at:

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