Infant Mortality in Montgomery County

Maleka J. James, MPH
Supervisor, Bureau of Maternal and Child Health
Public Health – Dayton & Montgomery County

Nan-c Moss Vann, MPA
Project Manager, EveryOne Reach One Infant Mortality Task Force
Public Health – Dayton & Montgomery County
Community Health Priorities

- Infant & Maternal Vitality
- Chronic Disease Prevention
- Behavioral Health
Infant Mortality

• Infant mortality is defined as the death of a baby before his or her first birthday.

• Infant mortality rate is the number of babies who died in the first year of life, per 1,000 live births.

• Infant mortality is a key indicator for birth outcomes as well as for overall community health and well being.

• Infant mortality is a public health crisis both locally and nationally.
Why Babies Die in Montgomery County


- Prematurity/Related Conditions: 28.4%
- Obstetric Conditions: 14.9%
- Congenital Anomalies: 14.2%
- External Causes: 13.5%
- Perinatal Infections: 5.4%
- Other Infections: 4.7%
- Birth Asphyxia: 1.4%
- Other Causes/Undetermined: 17.6%

Racial disparity linkages!
Preterm Birth Report Card

Source: Preterm birth rates are from the National Center for Health Statistics, 2018 final natality date. Grades assigned by March of Dimes Perinatal Data Center.
In 2017, Montgomery County’s overall infant mortality rate (7.8 deaths per 1,000 live births) ranked 5th among the nine Ohio Equity Institute (OEI) counties and Ohio.

In 2017, 90% of Black infant deaths occurred within the nine OEI counties.
Infant Mortality Trends by Race
Montgomery County

Number of Deaths

- Montgomery County
- Black
- White


2018 numbers are preliminary
Infant Mortality Rates by Race
Montgomery County

Number of Deaths per 1,000 Live Births

Montgomery County
Black
White

2018 numbers are preliminary
Racial Disparities in Preterm Birth

In Ohio, Black women with 5 or more years of college are more likely to deliver a premature baby than poor White women with a high school degree or less.
Community Awareness & Engagement

Dayton & Montgomery County Infant Mortality Task Force

Their Story is Our Story

Infant Mortality Conference
Fireside Chat

- Thursday, September 26, 2019
- Charles Johnson IV
  - 4Kira4Moms nonprofit
  - Maternal health policy advocate
  - Preventing Maternal Deaths Act of 2017
- Senator Stephanie Kunze
  - Senate District 16
  - Co-Chair Infant Mortality Commission
Conference Report

- 16 sponsors
- Over 300 people in attendance
  - 250 conference attendees
  - 31 speakers
  - 26 volunteers
- 9 Sessions
  - 5 concurrent
  - 4 provided once
- 3 Keynote Addresses
  - Tiffany Terry
  - Charles Johnson
  - Dr. Jonathan Thackeray
Conference Sessions

Community Resources Increasing Infant Vitality

Fathering With a Purpose

Foundational Introduction to Implicit Bias

How Implicit Bias Can Create Barriers to Health Equity through the Lens of Infant Mortality and Race

Managing Maternal Health

Race-Based Trauma and Trauma Informed Care

Reducing Infant Mortality and Achieving Health Equity through the Social Determinants of Health

Safe Sleep in Montgomery County

Their Story is Our Story Parent Panel
Thank You to All of Our Sponsors!

Task Force Co-Leads
John Theobald & Terra Williams
EveryOne Reach One

Dayton & Montgomery County Infant Mortality Task Force

Steering Committee (Community Team)
- A diverse spectrum of stakeholders
- Supports the overall vision and engages the community

Backbone Support
- Guide vision and strategies
- Approve and support aligned activities
- Establish shared measurement practices
- Build public support
- Advance Policy
- Provide Resources

Joint Information Center
- Coordinate common messaging
- Engage Media Coverage
- Create public awareness
- Provide guidance to member agencies

Finance Section
- Work collaboratively to secure funding for interventions

Operations Section
- Direct branch operations to focus on SDOH and Health Equity
- Provide current operational status to Backbone Support

Prevention Branch
- Reduce unintended pregnancy by providing education and resources on LARC methods and access to prenatal care

Fatherhood Coalition
- Engage fathers to support mothers and their children

Case Review Team & Community Action Team
- Reviews and analyzes the information collected in interventions and medical data abstractions

Education Branch
- Dedicated to fostering educational success of all MOC children from birth

Substance Misuse
- Reduce number of mothers who smoke and increase screening for alcohol use in pregnant women

Community Engagement
- Collaborate with community members affiliated by geographic proximity to implement the best place based initiatives

Preterm and Low Birthweight
- Decrease the percentage of preterm and low birthweight babies

Ohio Equity Institute (OEI)
- Statewide initiative to improve birth outcomes and reduce racial disparities in infant mortality

Montgomery County

Ohio

Public Health

Dayton & Montgomery County Infant Mortality Task Force
Efforts to Reduce Infant Mortality

• Ohio Department of Medicaid Funded & Proposed Projects
  • 2016 – 2018: $1.6 million (awarded)
  • 2018 – 2019: $3.9 million (awarded)
  • 2020 – 2021: $3.61 million (applied)
    • CenteringPregnancy®
    • Community Health Workers
    • Home Visiting
    • Community-Based Interventions
      • Fatherhood Engagement
      • Faith-based Engagement
      • Doula Support
      • Peer-to-Peer Education
Efforts to Reduce Infant Mortality

• Pathways Community HUB
  • Greater Dayton Area Hospital Association & Dayton Children’s Hospital

• Moms2B
  • Partnership with Moms2B and Public Health - Dayton & Montgomery County
Efforts to Reduce Infant Mortality

Ohio Equity Institute

• A collaboration between the Ohio Department of Health and local partners.

• Created in 2012 to address racial disparities in birth outcomes,

• 1.0 – County-wide interventions: CenteringPregnancy®, Progesterone Therapy, Community Engagement

• 2.0 – County-wide interventions, in addition to the utilization of Neighborhood Navigators
  • Connecting the unconnected
Efforts to Reduce Infant Mortality

Safe Sleep Ambassador Program
Provides safe sleep training, education, and resources community-wide.

Infant Safe Sleep

Baby sleeps safest alone, on their back, in a crib.
Collaboration
Thank You! Questions?

Maleka J. James, MPH
Supervisor, Bureau of Maternal and Child Health
Public Health – Dayton & Montgomery County
mjames@phdmc.org
937-496-7187

Nan-c Moss Vann, MPA
Project Manager, EveryOne Reach One Infant Mortality Task Force
Public Health – Dayton & Montgomery County
nvann@phdmc.org
937-224-3762