Maryland Maternal and Child Health Priorities and Performance Measures

Maryland State Priorities
The current Maryland MCH Priorities were identified during a statewide needs assessment process in 2010. The needs assessment included analysis of Maryland data sources, focus groups, key informant interviews, and meetings with health providers. Ultimately, parents, public health professionals, health providers and community groups from across the state offered input to determine eight Maryland priority maternal and child health needs as listed below:

- Improving the health and wellness of women during the childbearing years (ages 15-44) to ensure that women are healthy at the time of conception.
- Promoting healthy pregnancies, pregnancy outcomes and infants by reducing risky behaviors (e.g. substance abuse) and improve access to prenatal care.
- Promoting early and middle childhood health, child development and parent-child connectedness by increasing access to evidence based home visiting programs.
- Improving access to preventive, primary, specialty, mental health and oral health care as well as health insurance coverage for all children including those with asthma and other special health care needs.
- Promoting needed actions to reduce overweight and obesity among children and adolescents.
- Improving supports for the successful transition of all youth to adulthood.
- Sustaining, strengthening, and maximizing strategic partnerships through the Community of Care Consortium to address CSHCN core outcomes in Maryland.
- Improving state and local capacity to collect, analyze, share, translate and disseminate MCH data and evaluate programs.

Maryland Performance Measures

1. Percent of pregnancies that are intended.
2. Percent of women reporting alcohol use in the last three months of pregnancy.
3. Number of children enrolled in evidence based home visiting programs in Maryland.
4. Rate of emergency department visits for asthma per 10,000 children, ages 0-4.
5. Percent of children ages 1-17 enrolled in the Maryland Medicaid program whose BMI is >=85% of normal weight for height.

6. Percent of YSCHCN families who participate in transitioning planning.

7. Percent of Community of Care Members who report five or more collaborative activities in the previous 12 months.

8. Percent of performance measure benchmarks Maryland has reached toward implementing a data sharing plan.