



WHAT IS THE MCH BLOCK GRANT?

The MCH Block Grant is a grant from the U.S. government that supports programs for women, children, and teens, as well as for children and youth with special health care needs and their families. The Louisiana Department of Health, Office of Public Health’s Bureau of Family Health (BFH) oversees Louisiana’s MCH Block Grant. We aim to keep up to date on the pressing needs of Louisiana families. Community feedback is important!

WHAT DOES THE MCH BLOCK GRANT FUND?

The MCH Block Grant pays for health programs for women, infants, children, youth, children and youth with special health care needs (CYSHCN) and their families. These programs help ensure pregnant women, women of childbearing age, infants, children, youth, and families in Louisiana have the opportunity to live healthy lives. Services include screenings for health conditions, specialty clinics, and care coordination. We also work to make sure community and health systems support families and help them thrive.

WHAT WE HEARD THAT LOUISIANA NEEDS

- Access to quality health care.
- Access to supports for families.
- Help finding services for children and youth with special health care needs.
- A better understanding of why some groups have worse health problems than others. All families deserve the chance to be healthy!
- Local community leaders across the state who work to protect the health of families.
- Up to date facts on the physical, social, emotional, and mental health needs of women, children, and youth.

HEARING FROM YOU:

Every 5 years, the state does research to select its major activities for the next 5 years. In 2015, we talked and listened to women, families, and communities, looked at data about the health of people in the state, and surveyed doctors to learn about their practices. The lessons we learned led to the major needs listed above, which helped us choose our major activities. Every year, BFH continues to ask families and providers about their current needs.

AREAS OF FOCUS:



Maternal Health



Babies



Young Children



Youth



CYSHCN



Strengthen Programs & Services

MCH BLOCK GRANT GOALS AND WINS



Maternal

The time before, during, and after a pregnancy is important for a woman's health and her family. Often in Louisiana, women and their families suffer from pregnancy complications.

MCH Block Grant Strategies:

- ✓ BFH reviews cases of maternal death with communities to learn how to prevent them in the future.
- ✓ BFH will support the Louisiana *Healthy Moms, Healthy Babies Advisory Council*. The council's goal is to develop solutions to reduce disparities in maternal health. This council will include community leaders, health professionals, and policy makers.

Key Win:

BFH worked with obstetric leaders and birth facilities in the state for the [Louisiana Perinatal Quality Collaborative](#).



Babies

Positive experiences during babies' sleep, feeding, and relationships with their caregivers can affect their health, well-being, and future development.

MCH Block Grant Strategies:

- ✓ Louisiana's *Gift* program works with birthing hospitals and communities to ensure that moms, babies, and their families receive breastfeeding support.
- ✓ BFH is working to increase the number of breastfeeding-friendly workplaces in the state.
- ✓ BFH promotes safe sleep for babies through community discussion, radio ads, and the website [GiveYourBabySpace.org](#).

Key Win:

[GiveYourBabySpace.org](#) has been redesigned and includes a fun, interactive game to help families learn about safe sleep.



Young Children

Catching health and developmental issues early can help a child thrive in their health, well-being, and school readiness.

MCH Block Grant Strategies:

- ✓ BFH created a program to help healthcare providers deliver quality developmental screening in their clinics.
- ✓ BFH will work with the Department of Education to make sure that children who are deaf or hard of hearing start school with the language skills needed to succeed.
- ✓ BFH shares [Vroom](#) tools with parents to provide useful tips on child brain development.

Key Win:

BFH's Developmental Screening Coordinator was selected as the Learn the Signs - Act Early Ambassador to Louisiana and will promote materials designed for parents.

MCH BLOCK GRANT GOALS AND WINS



Youth

Adolescence (ages 10-24) is a key time of development. Youth are growing physically, mentally, emotionally, and socially. Addressing concerns can help youth be healthier adults.

MCH Block Grant Strategies:

- ✓ BFH is working with school-based health centers across the state to ensure students have access to quality health services.
- ✓ This work includes hearing from students about their experience in the health centers and providing school-based health centers' staff with training on building strong, sustainable business practices.

Key Win:

BFH surveyed more than 3,500 students aged 12 to 17 who received services at school-based health centers about their experience and quality of care.



CYSHCN

Children and youth with special health care needs (CYSHCN) visit multiple providers, requiring coordinated care that is manageable for families to navigate.

MCH Block Grant Strategies:

- ✓ BFH's Children's Special Health Services holds resource information workshops and trainings for providers and families across the state on caring for CYSHCN, and provides specialty care in areas that lack access.
- ✓ BFH's Children's Special Health Services sponsors care coordinators in 7 academic clinics to connect families to the services they need.

Key Win:

22,685 families across the state received comprehensive care coordination services through BFH's Children's Special Health Services.



Strengthening Programs & Services

BFH works hard to provide high quality services and to improve statewide systems so that all Louisianans have the chance to thrive.

MCH Block Grant Strategies:

- ✓ BFH is working to include families in our decision making by making it easier for families to participate and providing parents with leadership tools.
- ✓ Knowing health is more than physical health, BFH is exploring the quality and availability of social and behavioral supports of BFH programs.
- ✓ BFH is working to understand what drives health disparities and how to address these drivers in our work.

Key Win:

BFH hosted 6 focus groups with African American fathers around the state and learned how to better engage dads in BFH programs and campaigns.



MCH BLOCK GRANT SURVEY

1. Do you think Louisiana set the right goals?

- Yes
- No
- Not sure

2. Do you think the Louisiana MCH Block Grant could help you, your family, or your community?

- Yes
- No
- Not sure

3. Do you know about the following services/resources supported by the MCH Block Grant?

	I know about this service/resource	I have used this service/resource before	I do not know about this service/resource, but I am interested in learning more	This service/resource does not apply to me
BFH Data Center	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BFH Website	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Community Action and Advisory Teams (CAATs)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Regional MCH Coordinators	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
GiveYourBabySpace.org	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Collective Breastfeeding Resources (LABreastfeedingSupport.org, Collective mobile app, <i>We're Prepared</i> Checklist)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Family Support and Coaching Services (Nurse-Family Partnership, Parents as Teachers)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
School-Based Health Centers	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Louisiana Developmental Screening Guidelines	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Child Development Mobile Apps for Parents (Vroom, CDC's Milestone Tracker)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Resource Information Workshops	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Family Resources Center at Children's Hospital of New Orleans	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Children's Special Health Services Sub-Specialty Clinics	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Reproductive Health Clinics (Parish Health Units)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Complete this survey now by filling it out and returning to the receptionist. You may also complete it on https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/MCH_BlockGrant_2018 or send it to Liz Keenan, 1450 Poydras Street, Rm 2013 New Orleans, LA, 70112, Elizabeth.Keenan@la.gov.



MCH BLOCK GRANT SURVEY

4. Where do you live?

- Southeast LA (New Orleans, Baton Rouge, and North Shore areas)
- Southwest LA (Lake Charles/Lafayette areas)
- Central LA (Alexandria area)
- North LA (Shreveport/Monroe areas)
- I don't live in LA

5. Which best describes you? Check all that apply.

- Pregnant or parent of newborn
- Youth or adolescent
- Adult with no children
- Parent or guardian of a child
- Parent or guardian of a child with special health care needs
- Youth with special health care needs
- Local health department employee
- State health department employee
- Other state agency employee
- Community service provider
- Healthcare provider
- Elected official
- Advocate
- Other _____

6. What are the main issues or concerns related to maternal, child, and family health in **your community?**

If you are interested in participating in future BFH and the MCH Block Grant activities, please provide your contact information below:

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____