



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 MASSACHUSETTS



70,702

babies are born



6,272

babies are born prematurely



2,140

babies are born with a birth defect



281

babies die before their first birthday



\$324 MILLION

is the societal cost of preterm birth

In Massachusetts, 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 Massachusetts, 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 Massachusetts. In 2018 March of Dimes secured a legislative win by advocating for legislation to raise the legal age to purchase tobacco products and electronic cigarettes from age 18 to 21.

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 **two NICU Family Support®** programs operating in Massachusetts hospitals 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. 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. In 2018 March of Dimes trained **hundreds of pharmacists** on guidelines for women being prescribed low-dose aspirin for the prevention of preeclampsia. Providers from multiple fields came together and developed a state action plan to ensure women have access to low-dose aspirin to prevent preterm birth.

UNITE

March of Dimes is a founding member in much of the quality improvement work across the state of Massachusetts. March of Dimes was a founding partner of the Massachusetts Perinatal Quality Collaborative, a strong partner of the Neonatal Quality Improvement Collaborative and sits on the executive level of leadership of the Perinatal-Neonatal Quality Improvement Network (PNQIN). March of Dimes was instrumental in gathering a high-profile Advisory Board for PNQIN, helping increase visibility of the collaborative among lawmakers and local stakeholders.

PARTNER

March of Dimes Massachusetts works with citizen and health professional groups to elevate the issue of infant mortality, including local coalitions such as the Worcester Healthy Baby Collaborative and Project Baby Springfield. We work with the Massachusetts Caucus of Women's Legislators to pursue policies solutions to reduce preterm birth. We also work with the PNQIN to disseminate best practices for maternal and neonatal care to all birthing hospitals and NICUs.

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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