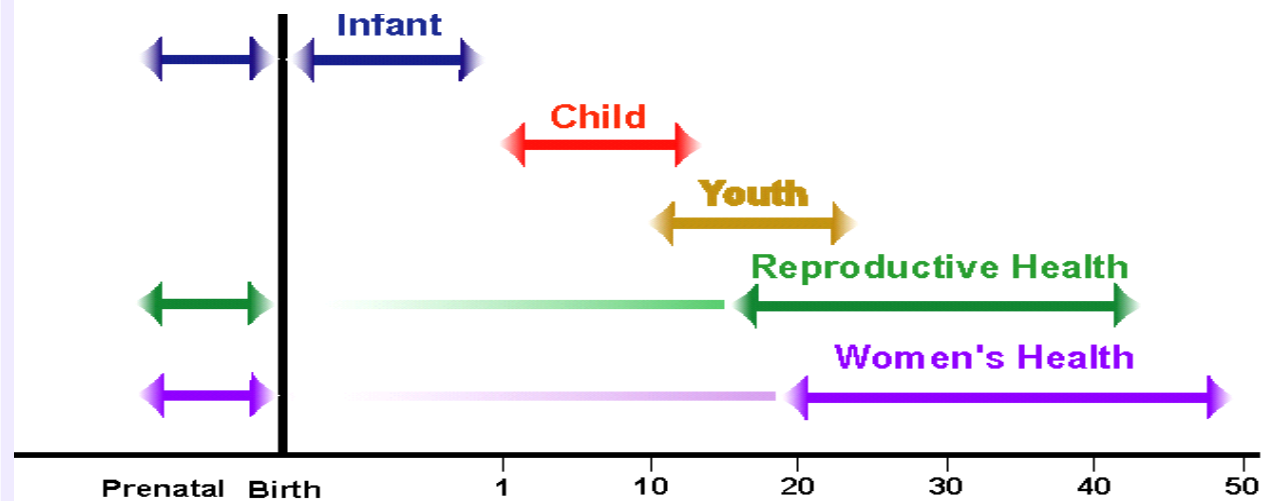


Center for Maternal and Child Health: Our Vision

Through its various activities and programs, the Center strives to create a vision of a future in which:

- ✓ All pregnancies are planned,
- ✓ All women reach an optimal level of health and well-being prior to pregnancy,
- ✓ No woman dies or is harmed as a result of being pregnant,
- ✓ All babies are born healthy,
- ✓ All children and adolescents reach their optimum level of health and well-being,
- ✓ All women, infants, children and adolescents have access to affordable, quality health care services including family planning services, perinatal care, genetic services, preventive and primary care services, specialty care, oral health services and mental health care,
- ✓ Women, children and families are highly valued, and
- ✓ All health inequities are eliminated.

CMCH Across the Lifespan



For more information, please contact:

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 Director

Or visit our website:

www.fha.state.md.us/mch



Martin O'Malley, Governor . Anthony G. Brown, Lt. Governor . John M. Colmers, Secretary . Russell W. Moy, M.D., MPH, Director, Family Health Administration

Revised 7/13/2009

Center for Maternal and Child Health



The mission of the Center for Maternal and Child Health is to protect, promote and improve the health and well-being of women, children, and adolescents in Maryland.

Who We Are

The **Center for Maternal and Child Health (CMCH)**'s programs and activities seek to strengthen and support the maternal and child health infrastructure and to assure the availability and accessibility of quality preventive and primary care services for women, children and their families. The Center's programs are integrated to assure a holistic and coordinated life-span approach to enhancing the health of Marylanders.

Why We're Here

- ✓ There are 1.2 million women of childbearing age and 1.5 million children and adolescents in Maryland.
- ✓ More than 29,000 unintended pregnancies occur annually in Maryland.
- ✓ Each year, approximately 78,000 babies are born and over 600 newborns do not live to see their first birthday. African American babies die at nearly twice the rate of Caucasian babies.
- ✓ Almost one in ten Maryland births are to adolescents under the age of 20.
- ✓ In 2007, 892 Maryland children were diagnosed with elevated blood lead levels.
- ✓ More than one in ten Marylanders has a history of asthma including approximately 150,000 children.
- ✓ Slightly more than half of Maryland kindergartners enter school ready to learn.
- ✓ Obesity is increasing among children; this contributes to type 2 diabetes.
- ✓ Many Maryland women lack access to preventive and primary care services.

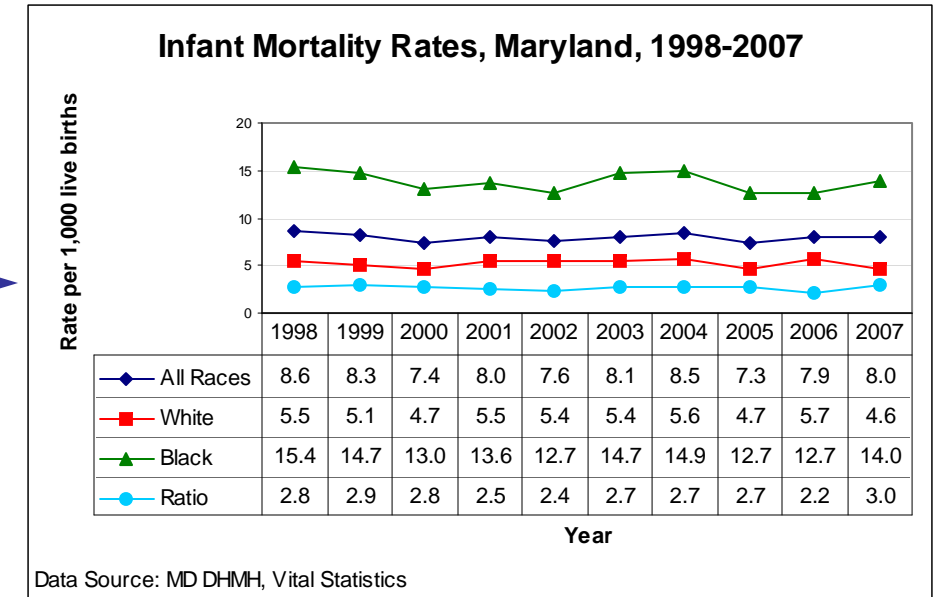
What We're Doing

- The **Family Planning and Reproductive Health Program's** goal is to reduce unintended pregnancies, improve reproductive health and prevent adverse pregnancy outcomes. The Program assures that comprehensive family planning, preconception health, teen pregnancy prevention, and colposcopy services are available to the 70,000+ clients served annually in over 80 sites statewide. This Program funds and supports:
 - ✓ Family planning/reproductive health clinical services in each jurisdiction;
 - ✓ Healthy Teen and Young Adult Projects offering a holistic approach to teen pregnancy prevention;
 - ✓ Preventive services including preconception counseling; screening/treatment for sexually transmitted diseases; breast and cervical cancer screening; health referrals for mental health; domestic violence and substance abuse; and counseling teens on ways to avoid sexual coercion.
- The **Maternal and Perinatal Health Program's** goal is to prevent maternal and infant deaths and improve perinatal care for the 70,000+ babies born each year in Maryland. Activities and strategies include funding and support for:
 - ✓ Development of statewide Perinatal Standards, and perinatal systems building activities in each jurisdiction including maternal, fetal and infant mortality review, and perinatal center review and designation;
 - ✓ Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS) educational and family support activities;
 - ✓ A statewide survey to improve pregnancy outcomes (PRAMS); and
 - ✓ Promotion of preconception folic acid use and infant breastfeeding.
- The **Child and Adolescent Health Program's** goal is to promote and protect the health of Maryland's 1.5 million children and adolescents, ages 0-21, by assuring that comprehensive, quality preventive and primary services are accessible. Activities and strategies include funding and support for:
 - ✓ Early Childhood Initiatives including home visiting, mental health and promotion of access to a medical home;
 - ✓ Initiatives that increase blood lead testing, particularly in 'at risk' areas;
 - ✓ The Maryland Abstinence Education Program;
 - ✓ The Maryland Asthma Control Program including planning and surveillance; and
 - ✓ School health programs, including medical consultation and development of guidelines.
- The **Women's Health Program's** goal is to assess and address health issues that commonly, uniquely or disproportionately affect women throughout their life span. Activities include implementation of the WELL Project, a federally funded demonstration project that offers preventive services to low income women enrolled in family planning clinics. The Program publishes materials that raise awareness of women's health issues including brochures on women and depression and a chart book which describes the health of Maryland women.

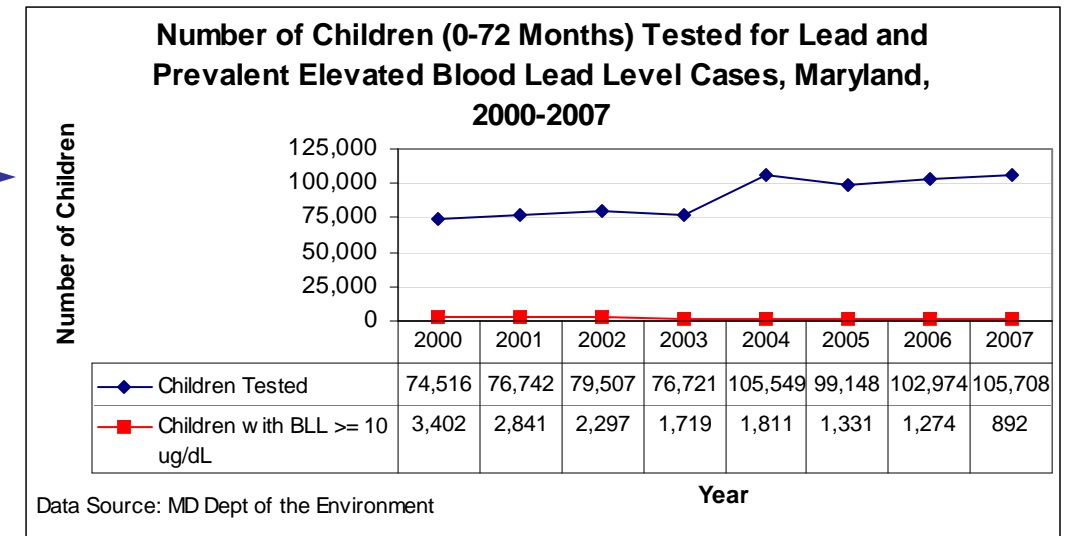
The Difference We're Making

The Center's efforts have contributed to:

Fewer infant deaths



Increased blood lead testing rates



Fewer teen births



Fewer unintended pregnancies - The Alan Guttmacher Institute estimates that Maryland's publicly funded family planning services help to avert 21,600 unintended pregnancies each year.

What Remains to Be Done

- Offer publicly subsidized family planning services to the 175,000 women currently not served;
- Further reduce infant mortality, particularly health inequities;
- Further reduce morbidity due to environmental health conditions such as asthma and lead; and
- Enhance the Center's data and epidemiological capacity.

