

## Wayne County PMDL Team Progress

Loretta V. Davis  
Catharine Oliver  
Audrey Smith  
Talat Danish




---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## Team's Overarching Goal

- To reduce infant mortality by improving pre-conception and inter-conception health for women by implementing strategies that emphasize, support and strengthen the value of women.

START • LIVING • HEALTHY

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## Goal Evolution

- Improving Access vs. impacting more upstream factors
- Recognizing the impact of social determinants
- Need to obtain sustained results vs. band-aid approach
- Addressing landscape factors as opposed to portrait factors

START • LIVING • HEALTHY

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

Wayne County

## Goal Evolution continued

- Most importantly the Team realized that to achieve our goal of reducing infant mortality by improving pre-conception and inter-conception health, the Team will need to address the social determinants that impact self-esteem, self-worth and self-sufficiency of women--hence the focus on valuing womanhood.

START • LIVING • HEALTHY

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

Wayne County

## Reasons Goals Changed

- Presumptive eligibility was already passed in the State of Michigan, hence the need to pursue it was eliminated
- A better understanding of upstream factors led to change in focus

START • LIVING • HEALTHY

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

Wayne County

## Accomplishments to Date

- Team met to consolidate objectives and strategies. Worked to develop actionable items and to start working on items within four months
- Decision made to continue working on other factors while focusing on valuing womanhood.

START • LIVING • HEALTHY

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---



## Accomplishments to date-continued

- Introduction of the problem of high infant mortality rates and disparities in infant mortality in Wayne County to key stakeholders
- Formation of a steering committee that will move Wayne County's infant mortality reduction efforts forward
- Pulling together of various Wayne County maternal and child health programs under the single umbrella of the Wayne County Babies program
- Targeting cities which would benefit most from a pre-conception and inter-conception health program

**START • LIVING • HEALTHY**

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---



## Lessons Learned

- Set realistic objectives
- Focus on one or two key issues in the short term while continuing to work on other areas of the program in the long term
- Importance of stakeholder buy-in: one cannot go it alone
- Sustained results require addressing root causes

**START • LIVING • HEALTHY**

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---



## How does "place matter?"

- Targeted cities (with high IMR) had one or more of the following issues:
  - Higher unemployment rates and poverty whereby valuing womanhood seen as secondary to more pressing issues of adequate food, healthcare and jobs
  - Inadequate stakeholder involvement

**Additionally these cities had:**

- Higher birth rates
- Limited access to services (lack of transportation even if FQHCs were offering services)

**START • LIVING • HEALTHY**

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

Wayne County

## Challenges

- Keeping stakeholders engaged given competing priorities for their time
- Short time frame (efforts may not produce results in the time frame)
- Sustaining funding sources
- Effective legislation that promotes equitable sharing of resources: nutritional, educational, health care related, housing related, etc.

START • LIVING • HEALTHY

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

Wayne County

## Vision for 2009

- To have a committed group of stakeholders who champion and/or implement the identified strategies for increasing self-assurance and self-reliance in women and girls
- Community dialogue relevant to the value of women and women's health
- Increased knowledge, trust, and utilization of available services in the targeted communities

START • LIVING • HEALTHY

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

Wayne County

## Policies and Practices that would Support this Vision

- Early and consistent health education along with interventions that increase and encourage self-esteem and self-reliance in venues that touch women and girls such as schools, faith based organizations, and community based organizations

START • LIVING • HEALTHY

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

Wayne County

## Policies and practices...continued

- Diverse venues that consistently identify and intervene with women and girls who are at high risk of unintended pregnancy
- Executive branch and appropriator buy-in for funding to sustain these efforts

START • LIVING • HEALTHY

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

Wayne County

# Thank You

The Wayne County Department  
of Public Health

Wayne, Michigan

START • LIVING • HEALTHY

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---