

Strides Among State Health Agencies to Improve Birth Outcomes

Lacy M. Fehrenbach, MPH

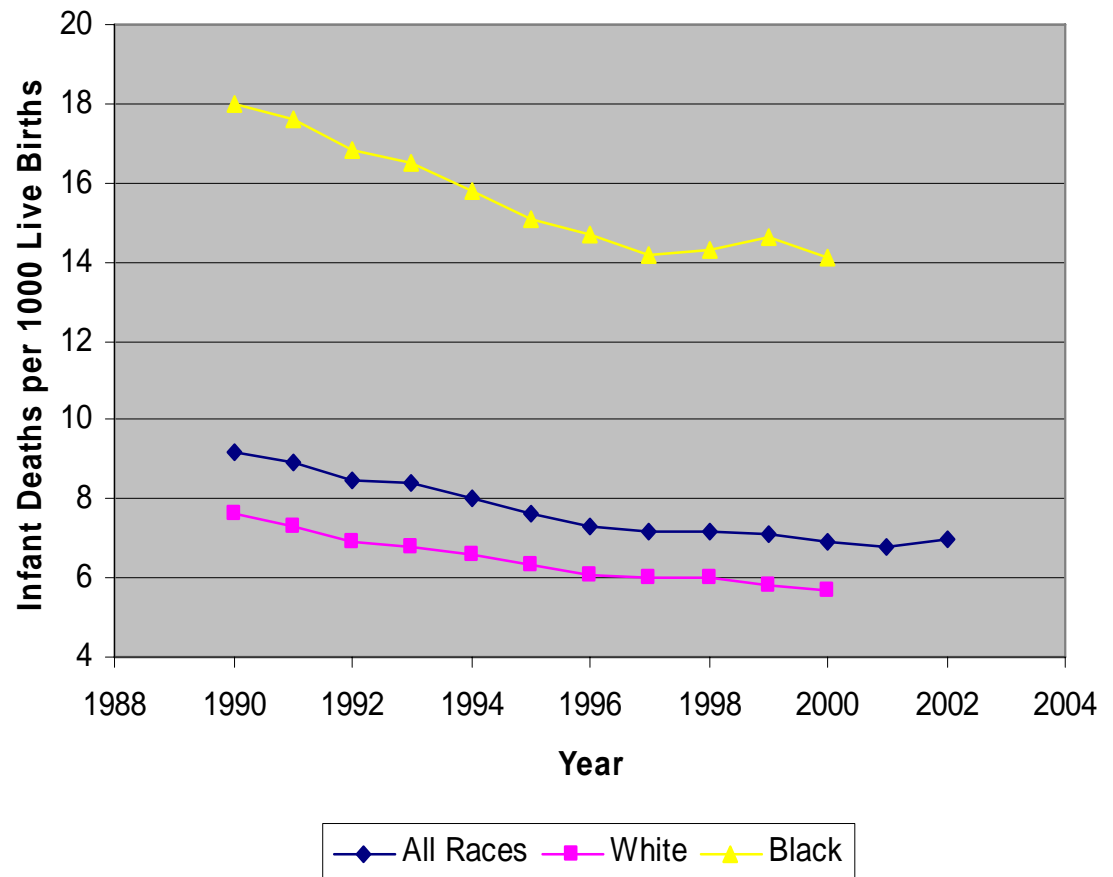
ASTHO Maternal and Child Health Policy Analyst

lfehrenbach@astho.org

Background

- Lag in improvements in birth outcomes
- Increase in IMR in 2002
- Significant ethnic and racial disparities persist

Infant Mortality Trends 1990-2002

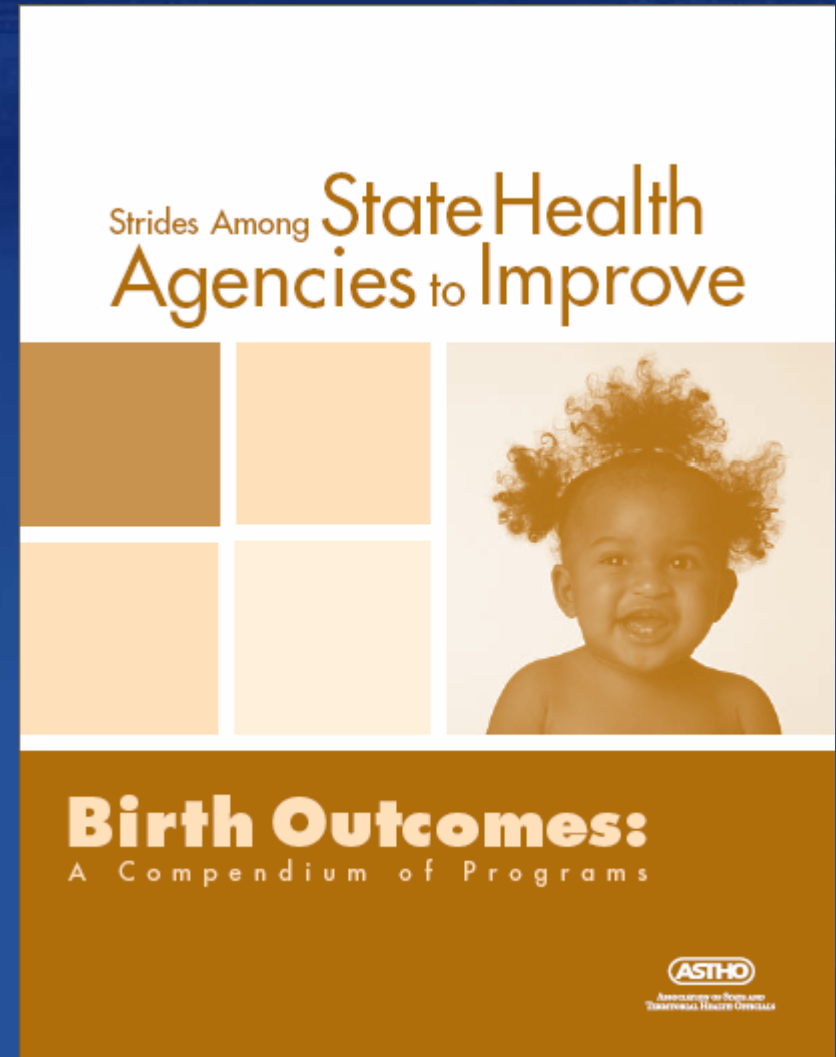


Goals

- Facilitate information sharing
- Build a sample of programs that reflect state diversity
- Gather information on what works
- Inform policymakers and state public health programmatic staff

Action

- ASTHO issued call for promising programs
- 21 states and 1 territory responded
- 32 programs
- Programs organized into compendium.



Funding Sources

- Federal
- State General Funds
- Local Funds
- Tobacco Settlement Funds
- Other Entities



Target Populations

- First time mothers
- Health professionals
- High-risk women
 - Ethnic & Racial Minority Women
 - Women with incomes < 200 % FPL
 - Women with behavioral risks
 - Women with previous poor birth outcome



Strategies to Improve Birth Outcomes

Common Strategies

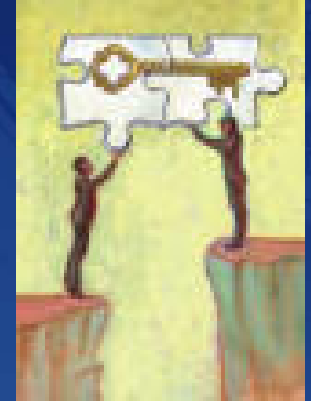
- Eliminate Health Disparities*
- Improve Home Visitation
- Perinatal Systems of Care
- Prenatal/ Postpartum Care and Health Education

Additional Strategies

- Folic Acid Awareness/NTD Prevention
- Smoking Cessation
- Injury Prevention
- Medicaid Expansions
- Newborn Screening
- Oral Health
- Perinatal HIV Prevention
- Prematurity Prevention

Tools and Mechanisms Used

- Task Forces
- Partnerships
- Local Community Engagement
- Education/Information Sharing



South Carolina: SKIING

Supporting Kids & Infants Into the Next Generation



A Faith-based infant mortality initiative sponsored by DHEC, March of Dimes, and AMEC

- Goals: Reduce infant mortality and disparities
- Tools: Vitamins for Brides, Parents-To-Be Baskets, IM and *Back to Sleep* training for church leadership
- Evaluation: Process evaluation

Florida: Folic Acid Education Materials for Hispanic Women



Education campaign sponsored by FL Dept of Health, March of Dimes, Univ of South Florida

- Goal: reduce risk of NTDs among Hispanic women
- Tools: Photo novella with video, Low-literacy brochure
- Evaluation: Individuals and groups during material development, Pre-/post exposure knowledge tests

Puerto Rico: Healthy Start Project

Home Visitation Program



- Goals: Reduce risk factors for infant mortality, connect women and children to services
- Strategy: Case management/care coordination model, home visiting nurses + community health workers
- Evaluation: Process evaluation to adjust project, outcome - performance measures

Healthy Babies in Wisconsin Initiative



Collaborative of public health professionals, providers, consumers, payors, and community organizations

- Goals: Eliminate disparities in infant mortality and morbidity, assure best outcomes for women and children.
- Strategies: Healthy Babies Summit
www.wisconsinmedicalsociety.org/uploads/wmj/ACF22E.pdf
- Evaluation: Pre-/Post summit knowledge test

Challenges and Barriers

- Funding
- Workforce issues
- Effective use of data
- Reaching target populations
- Tracking/following-up
- Access

What it Takes to Succeed

- Community involvement
- Partnerships and collaboration
- Data systems
- Needs assessments
- Quality improvement measures
- Evaluation

Next Steps

- Continued collection of information
 - Focused work on major themes
- Continued information sharing
 - Issue briefs, web casts, fact sheets
 - Programmatic staff and policymakers

Acknowledgements



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Questions?

Lacy M. Fehrenbach, MPH

ASTHO

1275 K Street NW, Suite 800

Washington, DC 20005

202-371-9090

lfehrenbach@astho.org