

# INCREASE FUNDING FOR THE TITLE V MATERNAL & CHILD HEALTH BLOCK GRANT



The Association of Maternal & Child Health Programs (AMCHP) calls on Congress to fund the Title V Maternal and Child Health (MCH) Services Block Grant at **\$1 billion for FY2024**.

The MCH Block Grant, authorized by Title V of the Social Security Act, is the only federal program of its kind devoted solely to improving the health of all women and children in the United States. It is guided by the principles of evidence, flexibility, and results. **In FY2021, programs funded by the MCH Block Grant served 92% of pregnant women, 98% of infants, and 58% of children nationwide.**

	FY21	FY22	FY23	FY24 (Request)
MCH Block Grant (in millions)	\$712.7	\$747.7	\$822.7	\$1,000

Increased investments in the MCH Block Grant are needed to scale effective public health programs, meaningfully impact more families, and address long-standing racial, ethnic, and geographic inequities in maternal and child health outcomes. The MCH Block Grant is the backbone of our nation's public health infrastructure for women, children, and families, but that infrastructure has been severely strained by the pandemic, a burnt-out workforce, and ongoing and emerging public health needs. Title V needs sustained, increased funding to best serve our nation's families now and in the future.

## The MCH Block Grant Advances Health Equity

- Addresses social determinants of health to improve pregnancy, birth, and infant health outcomes
- Reduces racial and ethnic disparities in maternal, child, and infant mortality rates
- Promotes access to high quality, family-centered health care for all children, including those with special health care needs
- Builds local and community-based workforce capacity to address cultural awareness, racism, and implicit bias
- Broadens the inclusivity of state and local maternal and child health data collection



Another key component of the MCH Block Grant is the **Special Projects of Regional and National Significance (SPRANS)**.

SPRANS funding complements and helps ensure the success of state Title V, Medicaid, and CHIP programs by driving innovation, responding to emerging and entrenched issues, and building capacity for integrated systems of care for women and children.

**Key projects funded through SPRANS include:**

- State Maternal Health Innovation grants
- The Maternal Health Learning & Innovation Center (MHLIC)
- Maternal Mental Health Hotline
- Alliance for Innovation on Maternal Health
- Women's Preventive Services Initiative
- MCH workforce training programs
- Adverse childhood experiences research
- School-based health services network
- Child and adolescent injury prevention resource centers

**The MCH Block Grant improves the health of women, children, and families by:**

- Supporting evidence-based programs that work
- Providing flexibility to address emerging issues and state-specific maternal and child health needs
- Complementing other federally funded programs, such as home visiting, community health centers, Healthy Start, WIC, autism initiatives, CHIP, and Medicaid

For additional information, including state-specific Title V MCH Block Grant fact sheets, contact:

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### AMCHP'S ROLE

The Association of Maternal & Child Health Programs (AMCHP) leads and supports programs nationally to protect and promote the optimal health of women, children, youth, families, and communities. For over 75 years, AMCHP has served as a national resource, partner, and advocate for state public health leaders and others working to improve maternal and child health. AMCHP's members include directors of state maternal and child health programs, directors of state programs for children and youth with special health care needs, and state adolescent health coordinators, as well as family leaders, community-based organizations, and academic institutions and researchers focused on a common goal of **healthy children, healthy families, and healthy communities**.