

→ The Title V Maternal and Child (MCH) Block Grant

The MCH Block Grant, authorized by Title V of the Social Security Act of 1935, is the only federal program of its kind devoted solely to improving the health of all mothers, children, and families in the United States. It is guided by the principles of evidence, flexibility, and results. **In 2023, the Title V Block Grant provided services to 94% of pregnant women, 98% of infants, and 59% of children in the U.S.**

The MCH Block Grant is a vital source of funding that supports the health and well-being of mothers, children, and families, including those with special healthcare needs. The Title V Block Grant allows states and territories to address maternal and child health challenges in ways that best meet communities' needs by providing comprehensive services at various levels: direct services, enabling services, and public health services and systems. For example, states use Title V funding to improve access to prenatal and pediatric care, reduce infant and maternal mortality, support children and youth with special healthcare needs, and strengthen community-based health programs. As the backbone of our nation's public health infrastructure for women, children, and families, the Title V Block Grant plays a key role in advancing health outcomes and ensuring families have access to essential health care services.





MCH Block Grant Highlights

- Builds local and community-based workforce capacity through training, education, and leadership development to enhance health outcomes
- Promotes access to high quality, family-centered health care for all children, including those with special health care needs
- Enhances state and local maternal and child health data collection to generate impactful insights for meaningful change
- Addresses external health influences to improve pregnancy, birth, and infant health outcomes
- Reduces gaps in maternal, child, and infant mortality rates

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 Action & Resource Center (MHARC)
- 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

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 healthier children, healthy families, and healthy communities.



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

Supporting evidence-based programs

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: **Sherie Lou Santos, MPH, Chief of Policy, Government Affairs, and Communications** at ssantos@amchp.org.