

→ TITLE V: Special Projects of Regional and National Significance (SPRANS)

Special Projects of Regional and National Significance (SPRANS) is the second largest activity under the Title V Maternal and Child Health (MCH) Services Block Grant authorized under the Social Security Act, following the Title V state formula grants. **SPRANS funding complements and strengthens the success of state Title V, Medicaid, Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP), and other MCH programs by driving innovation, responding to emerging and entrenched issues, and building capacity for integrated systems of care for women, children, and families.**

Unlike Title V formula funding, which is distributed to states according to a statutory formula, SPRANS funding is competitively disbursed. These competitive grants allow the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) to target investments to address high-value MCH priorities with strong accountability measures. Maintaining SPRANS protects federal dollars, ensures more effective maternal and child health spending, strengthens state performance, and prevents higher future costs by supporting the national research, training, and innovation engine of Title V.



AMCHP
ASSOCIATION OF MATERNAL & CHILD HEALTH PROGRAMS

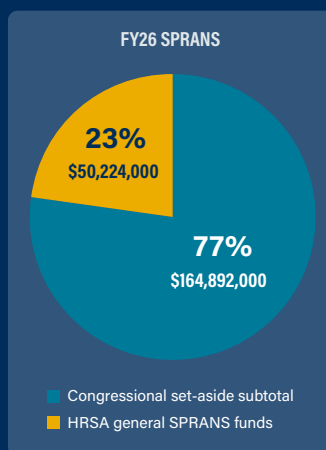
SPRANS Focus Areas and Activities

1. MCH research and training, including early intervention training and services development
2. Genetic disease testing, counseling, and information programs
3. Comprehensive hemophilia diagnostic and treatment centers
4. Newborn screening and follow-up services for genetic disorders, like sickle cell anemia
5. Special maternal and child health improvement projects

SPRANS Funding Enacted Levels

In FY 2024, \$210.1 million in SPRANS funding supported nearly 250 grantees across all 59 states and jurisdictions, supporting targeted investments that serve as an incubator of MCH innovation across a variety of grantees, including universities, state health departments, and nonprofit organizations.

SPRANS funding is intended to provide HRSA with the flexibility to support authorized activities and respond to emerging MCH needs. Over time, Congress has also directed portions of SPRANS funds through delineated set-asides for specific programs. SPRANS funding today consists of both general funding awarded at HRSA's discretion and congressionally directed funding.



SPRANS SPOTLIGHT #1:

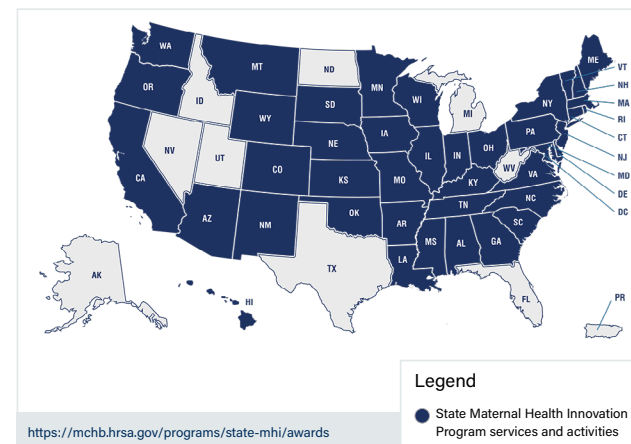
State Systems Development Initiative (SSDI)

The State Systems Development Initiative (SSDI) program works to improve MCH outcomes by increasing state capacity to collect, analyze, and use reliable data for state and jurisdiction Title V MCH Services Block Grant policy and program development. **All 59 Title V Block Grant grantees** are supported by the SSDI program, which plays a critical role in the application and annual reporting for the Title V Block Grant as well as addressing MCH data capacity needs during emergencies or emerging threats.

SPRANS SPOTLIGHT #2:

State Maternal Health Innovation (MHI)

The State Maternal Health Innovation (MHI) Program supports states in building comprehensive, data-driven, and collaborative maternal health systems. Now reaching **over 42 states**, the State MHI program has funded multiple cohorts to carry out core activities such as leading maternal health task forces; improving data quality; and carrying out new interventions tailored to states' unique populations, geographies, and MCH needs.



SPRANS SPOTLIGHT #3:

MCH Workforce Development Programs

SPRANS funding supports workforce development programs, including the Centers of Excellence in MCH Education, Science, and Practice; Leadership Education in Adolescent Health (LEAH) Program; Pediatric Pulmonary Centers; MCH Leadership, Education, and Advancement in Undergraduate Pathways (LEAP) Training Program; MCH Nutrition Training Program; and the MCH Public Health Catalyst Program to recruit and train the current and next generation of MCH leaders. Together, these specialized undergraduate, graduate, and post-graduate training programs – based at schools of medicine and public health, research institutes, and hospitals – strengthen the nation's MCH workforce by preparing the next generation of public health leaders to meet the evolving needs of pregnant women, mothers, children, and families.