



Kansas City Healthy Start Initiative: Level 2



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About KCHSI

Kansas City Healthy Start Initiative (KCHSI), a program of the Mother & Child Health Coalition in Greater Kansas City, is a medical home model of support for pregnant and postpartum women and their young children to:

- 1) Improve perinatal health of women and children
- 2) Promote quality services
- 3) Strengthen family resilience
- 4) Achieve collective impact
- 5) Increase accountability

through care coordination, referral, and goal planning.

- **Participants:** 1,158 served since 2015 – 591 women and 567 children (0-2) from 11 Missouri and 6 Kansas ZIP codes
- **Providers:** 2 Federally Qualified Health Centers – 2 Administrators and 8 Community Health Workers
- **Community:** Bi-State 5-County Coalition and Community Action Network

Project Challenges

Implementing a medical home model of care coordination:

- 1) Time needed for data collection and caseload size hindering care coordination
- 2) Turnover in Community Health Worker (CHW) positions
- 3) Difficulty establishing close rapport and trust in medical home setting
- 4) Difficulty building a common definition of a Community Action Network (CAN) in an established coalition
- 5) Changes in data elements, instruments, and protocols

THE JOURNEY

Project Successes

Promising early achievements:

- 1) Colocation of CHWs in Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs) resulting in excellent recruitment and referrals within FQHCs
- 2) CHW accessing HRSA CHW training modules, monthly training, and MCHC-sponsored training
- 3) Resilience of CHWs in adjusting to changes in Healthy Start system
- 4) Peer Learning Network participation and evaluation team's community mapping
- 5) Efficient and accurate data system currently in place

Lessons Learned

Insights during the process:

- 1) The importance of being flexible in adapting to change
- 2) The need for timely training to quickly orient new staff
- 3) The need to discern the respective value of home visits and medical home visits
- 4) Consideration of these three perspectives in CAN development: Healthy Start participants, CHWs and other provider; and the community
- 5) Recognition of the need for personnel to see the big picture of Healthy Start and the rationale for new approaches

Future Activities

Anticipated actions by 2019:

- 1) Greater focus on trauma-informed care to strengthen families' resilience
- 2) Enhanced roles of CHWs in city-wide Community Health Workers' Forum for their support and for benefits to the CAN
- 3) Further analysis of the pros and cons of inserting strategic home visits into the KCHSI medical home model
- 4) Completion of a multifaceted process evaluation of CAN development
- 5) Usage of data for decision-making at the participant, program, and community levels



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Kansas City Healthy Start Initiative Level 2

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Fetal Infant Mortality Review

Safe Haven for Newborns

Mid America Immunization Coalition

Samuel U. Rodgers Health Center – KCHSI Site

Swope Health Services – KCHSI Site

UMKC Institute for Human Development – KCHSI Evaluation Team

Title V Engagement

Bi-State Engagement of Title V Agencies:

Missouri Title V:

- Signed Data Use Agreement
- Met New Director, Melinda McLaughlin

Kansas Title V:

- Finalizing Data Use Agreement

2015 Outcome Highlights

1) Improve Perinatal Health:

- No infant and no maternal deaths
- Prenatal care for 85% of pregnant women in first trimester

2) Promote Quality Services:

- 61% of infants breastfed at some time, 53% at 6 months of age
- 57% of women completing a referral they received from KCHSI

3) Strengthen Family Resilience:

- Fathers involved with 54% of women during pregnancy and with children of 48% of women

4) Achieve Collective Impact:

- Fully implemented CAN at KCHSI

5) Increase Accountability:

- Benchmarks, Performance Measures, and aggregated Monthly Reports submitted

