

MUNSON 2015/16 COMMUNITY HEALTH NEEDS ASSESSMENT

ISSUE BRIEF: MATERNAL, FETAL, AND INFANT HEALTH

Healthy birth outcomes and early identification and treatment of health conditions among infants can prevent death and disability and enable children to reach their full potential. Despite major advances in medical care, critical threats to maternal, fetal, and infant health still exist.

Severity

Risk of mortality and morbidity associated with the problem

- Nearly half of pregnancies are unintended. Risks include low birth weight, postpartum depression, and family stress.
- 31% of women who deliver an infant suffer pregnancy complications, ranging from depression to the need for a cesarean delivery.
- Preterm birth rate has risen 20% in the past 20 years. Preterm infants are more likely to suffer complications at birth, die within the first few hours of life, and have lifelong challenges such as cerebral palsy or learning disabilities.
- Binge drinking and illicit drug use are associated with intimate partner violence and risky sexual behaviors, including unprotected sex and multiple sex partners. These activities increase the risk of unintended pregnancies and increase the risk of acquiring sexually transmitted infections.
- Although rare, the risk of death during pregnancy has declined little over the last 20 years

Magnitude

Number of people impacted by the problem

- An estimated 25,128 women of childbearing age (18-44 years old) live in Antrim, Benzie, Grand Traverse, Kalkaska and Leelanau counties.
- A total of 1,620 infants are born, on average, every year in the five-county region.

Impact

Improving this problem would have a positive impact on health, quality of life or health disparities

- Healthy reproductive and sexual practices can play a critical role in enabling people to remain healthy and actively contribute in the community.
- Planning and having a healthy pregnancy is vital to the health of women, infants, and families. It is especially important in preventing teen pregnancy and during teen childbearing, which may help raise educational attainment, increase employment opportunities, and enhance financial stability.
- Access to quality health services and support for safe practices can improve physical and emotional well-being and reduce teen and unwanted pregnancies, HIV/AIDS, viral hepatitis, and other sexually transmitted infections.
- A range of biological, social, environmental, and physical factors have been linked to maternal, fetal, and infant health outcomes. These include race and ethnicity, age, and socioeconomic factors, such as income and education.

Sustainability

Resources are available and barriers are surmountable

Resources in the community include:

- Munson Obstetrics Unit and Neonatal Intensive Care
- Primary care providers and OB/GYNs in the community
- Perinatal Initiative of Northern Lower Michigan
- Munson's Healthy Futures program
- Health Department programs, such the Maternal Infant Health Program, Michigan Home Visiting Program, Childhood Immunizations, Family Planning, and the Women Infants and Children's (WIC) Nutrition Program
- Northern Michigan Maternal Child Outreach
- Great Start Collaborative

Achievability

Achievable and measureable outcomes are possible within three years

Metrics include indicators collected by Community Health Solutions:

- Babies with low birthrate
- Infant mortality rate
- Mothers who received early prenatal care
- Mothers who smoked during pregnancy
- Preterm births

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE MUNSON 2015/16 COMMUNITY HEALTH NEEDS ASSESSMENT

Antrim, Benzie, Grand Traverse, Kalkaska and Leelanau Counties

Grand Traverse Region Maternal, Fetal and Infant Health Statistics					
<p>Low birthweight rates: Low birthweight rates range from 4.3% in Kalkaska County to 9.6% in Antrim County. Rates in Antrim (9.6%), Benzie (8.3%), and Leelanau (9.6%) exceed Michigan low birthweight rate among white population (7%).</p>					
<p>Infant mortality rates: Infant mortality rates in the five-county region are available for Antrim (9.9 per 1,000 live births), Grand Traverse (2.8) and Kalkaska (10.0). Due to low numbers, unable to calculate Benzie and Leelanau counties. For comparison, infant mortality rate in Michigan for white population is 5.3 per 1,000 live births.</p>					
<p>Early prenatal care: In all five counties, the proportion of women who received early prenatal care exceeds State rate (68.2%), ranging from 68.5% in Antrim County to 77.6% in Benzie County.</p>					
<p>Maternal smoking: The proportion of women who smoked during pregnancy exceeds State (19.7%) in all five counties: Antrim—30.5%; Benzie—30.1%; Grand Traverse—23.2%; Kalkaska—29.9%; and Leelanau—20.2%. Rates are even higher among low-income pregnant women.</p>					
<p>Preterm births: Preterm birth rates in the five-county region range from 7.1% in Benzie County to 12.7% in Antrim County. Only Antrim county is above the Michigan rate (12.0%).</p>					
<p>Teen birth rate: Teen birth rates vary widely in the five-county region, from 19.8 per 1,000 live births for females age 15-19 in Leelanau County to 44.6 per 1,000 in Antrim County.</p>					
Community Conversations			Major Forces of Change in the Community		
<p>111 community residents and stakeholders participated in one of five Community Conversations sponsored by local multipurpose collaborative bodies. Each one answered the question, “What can we do here to move closer to our vision of a healthy community?”</p> <p>Addressing maternal, fetal and infant health was part of the collective answer to this focus question as indicated below. Specifically, conversations included access to health care, access to affordable child care, and education to reduce teen pregnancy and improve parenting skills.</p>			<p>16 members of the Munson CHNA Advisory Committee participated in a facilitated discussion to identify forces of change in the community. The following forces impact maternal, fetal and infant health in the region:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Munson programs and services • Outbreaks of vaccine-preventable diseases • Funding streams/initiatives/funding available • Elections and implications for the Affordable Care Act • Increases in substance use, depression and anxiety • Technological improvements • Easy access to information • Grants brought into the area by the Northern Michigan Public Health Alliance 		
Antrim	Benzie	GT	Kalkaska	Leelanau	
✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
What Matters to You? Survey			Health Care Provider Survey		
<p>246 residents of Antrim, Benzie, Grand Traverse, Kalkaska and Leelanau counties completed the “What Matters to You?” Survey.</p> <p>Overall, residents ranked “lack of access to health care” as the fifth most important community health issue in their county, behind “substance use”, “lack of affordable housing”, “overweight and obesity”, and “mental health issues”. Adults in the region reported financial barriers to accessing health care, such as high deductibles and co-pays, limited insurance coverage, and inability to pay for visits.</p>			<p>50 physicians, nurse practitioners, and physician assistants from Kalkaska Memorial Medical Center, Munson Medical Center and Paul Oliver Hospital completed a brief Health Care Provider Survey.</p> <p>Overall, they ranked “lack of access to health care” as the fourth most important community health issue in their county, behind “overweight and obesity”, “substance use”, and “mental health issues”.</p>		