

FUNDING PRIORITIES

Availability & Quality of Health Care/Prevention Services
for:

All Women of Childbearing Age:

- a) Increasing risk reduction education and/or services (excluding billable services). This may include women at high-risk due to previous adverse pregnancy outcomes, chronic conditions or other risk factors in which pre/interconception or prenatal care could help prevent adverse outcomes. *
- b) Increasing education and services (excluding billable services) for urinary and reproductive tract infections identified before or during pregnancy. This may include sexually transmitted infections.

Pregnant Women:

- c) Increasing participation in state or local maternal child health programs (e.g. Medicaid, SCHIP, WIC) through enhanced outreach, education and public awareness.
- d) Enhancing education and support services that focus on reducing disparities in birth outcomes. This may include March of Dimes programs such as Stork's Nest®, Community Voice, and *Comenzando bien*®. **
- e) Enhancing care through the CenteringPregnancy® model of group prenatal care and/or providing training to providers who plan on utilizing CenteringPregnancy®. ***
- f) Increasing smoking cessation services. Preference will be given to prenatal health education and information/referral services that utilize the "5 A's" counseling approach. ****
- g) Increasing health education and information/referral services available to pregnant women who use alcohol or other drugs.
- h) Increasing professional education about "17P" (17 α hydroxyprogesterone caproate) treatment for women who have had a previous singleton preterm birth.

Availability of Genetics Services & Folic Acid Education

- i) Enhancing the availability, quality and utilization of genetics services and/or other patient services related to preventable birth defects.

All projects are required to include folic acid education in preventing birth defects and reducing preterm deliveries.

* For a list of specific risk areas, go to

www.marchofdimes.com/professionals/19695.asp.

** For more information contact the local chapter.

*** For more information visit www.centeringpregnancy.org

**** For more information on the "5A's" counseling approach, visit www.acog.org



MARCH OF DIMES Virginia State Chapter Community Grant Program

2009 Request for Proposals Announcement of Funding

GRANT SCHEDULE

Letters of Intent Due	July 31, 2008
Invitations to apply	Sept. 9, 2008
Full Proposals Due	Oct. 3, 2008
Notification of Awards	January, 2009
Project Year	Feb. 1, 2009- Feb. 28, 2010

*Conference call trainings on grant preparation
Jun 13 @ 1 pm, June 16 @ 9 am. Call for
information.*

PURPOSE

The March of Dimes is a national voluntary health agency whose mission is to improve the health of babies by preventing birth defects, premature birth and infant mortality. Founded in 1938, the March of Dimes funds programs of research, community services, education and advocacy to save babies.

Launched in 2003, the March of Dimes Prematurity Campaign is a multiyear, multimillion-dollar research, awareness and education campaign to help families have healthier babies.

As part of this effort, the Virginia community grants program is designed to invest in priority projects that further the March of Dimes mission, support national campaign objectives, and further our strategic goal of reducing disparities in birth outcomes.

In support of the campaign, the grants program focuses on issues such as:

- Educating women about risk reduction strategies, including signs and symptoms of preterm labor;
- Expanding access to health care;
- Helping health care providers learn ways to help reduce the risk of early delivery.

Proposals will be accepted from organizations with the capacity, competence and experience to accomplish project goals and objectives. Priority will be given to projects that, based on community needs, address increased access to care and/or prevention services to help reduce disparities in preterm birth. Project interventions may be provider and/or consumer focused.

FUNDING AVAILABLE

The applicant must provide services in the Virginia Chapter area excluding northern Virginia and including seven counties in northeast North Carolina. The chapter community grants fund for 2009 is approximately \$194,800. It is anticipated 5-8 larger projects will be funded. *The community award program is available for requests of \$3,000 or less. Contact chapter for information.* Chapter community grants are approved for one year.

APPLICATION & REVIEW PROCESS APPLICATION & REVIEW PROCESS

To apply, applicants should first **submit** a letter of intent: One page, single spaced on letterhead and 12 copies. Information to include:

- Title of project
- Specific need and target population
- Program plan description
- Evaluation plan description
- Estimated budget

Letter of intent is due by **5 pm July 31, 2008**.
Technical assistance will not be available July 21-25.

Letters of invitation to submit a full proposal will be sent Aug. 28 with the full proposal due Oct.5, 2008.

Proposals will be reviewed by a multi-disciplinary Program Services Committee. Applicants will be notified of their proposal's status in January, 2009. The grant period is from **Feb. 2008 – March 2010.**

Please Note:

March of Dimes chapter community grants do not fund scientific research projects. For information about research grants funded by the March of Dimes national office, please refer to the March of Dimes Web site at marchofdimes.com, or e-mail the Office of Research and Grants Administration at researchgrants@marchofdimes.com.

For additional information or to obtain an application, contact:

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In 2008, the March of Dimes Virginia Chapter funded a variety of projects, including:

- Centering Pregnancy projects at four locations.
- Maternal access to dental-related premature birth risk-reduction education and services.
- Reaching out for healthier babies with prenatal education, folic acid supplements and safe sleeping onesies.