



Greater Kentucky Chapter

Greater Kentucky Chapter – Medium Chapter Winner

The Greater Kentucky Chapter helped to increase the visibility and effectiveness of the *Healthy Babies are Worth the Wait*® project by funding social work services onsite in the obstetric practice at King's Daughters Hospital. Through this project, more than 700 pregnant women were screened during their prenatal visits for a variety of social and environmental contributors to premature birth, including domestic violence, homelessness, substance abuse, and financial concerns. The social worker assisted more than 300 of these women in accessing community resources to address these issues and increase their chances of having healthy, full-term pregnancies. As a result of this March of Dimes grant-funded project, the hospital has subsequently decided to provide funds to support this position indefinitely.

In 2008, the chapter reached over 500 families through NICU Family Support at Norton Suburban Hospital.

During Prematurity Awareness Month, the chapter sponsored a Prematurity Summit that drew 170 health professionals from around the state. Participants heard presentations by local and national speakers on topics such as racial disparities in premature birth, the contribution of elective c-sections to late preterm birth rates, the recent Surgeon General's Conference on Premature Birth, and an update on the *Healthy Babies are Worth the Wait* project.