



Every minute of every day a baby is born prematurely

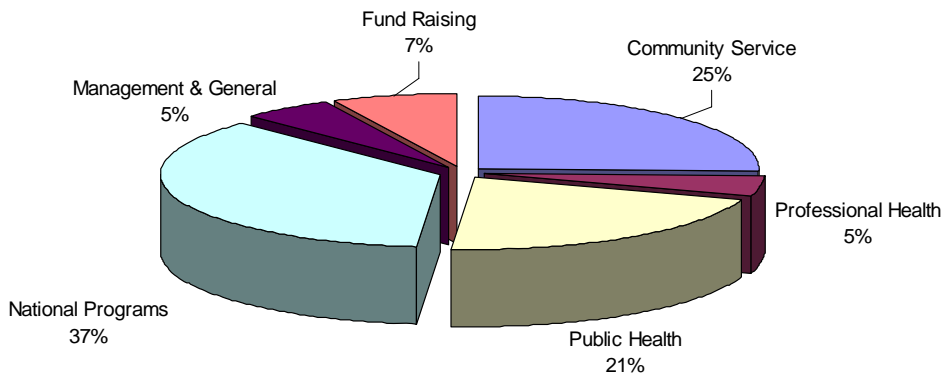


## Michigan Chapter March of Dimes: A Leader in Fiscal Responsibility

### **Michigan Dollars at Work...**

88 cents of every dollar donated goes toward the mission!

*The mission of the March of Dimes is to improve the health of babies by preventing birth defects, premature birth and infant mortality.*



### **Nationally, March of Dimes...**

- Allocated more than \$24 million for national research to save babies.
- Invested an additional \$2.4 million for the Prematurity Research Initiative.
- Distributed educational materials that reached 12 million women of childbearing age with messages on reducing their risk of premature birth.
- Trained specialists in 23 NICU Family Support locations. These specialists provided information and comfort to over 15,250 families.
- Reached over 58,000 people with our newly formed NICU website and sharyourstory.org, our online community for NICU families.

### **Locally, March of Dimes...**

- Awarded over \$900,000 to local researchers trying to save babies in 2007.
- Awarded over \$313,000 in chapter community grants to support local innovative programs in maternal/child health in 2008.
- Awarded over \$65,000 to start a NICU Family Support program at Helen DeVos Children's Hospital in Grand Rapids.
- Successfully advocated for funding to continue the Michigan Birth Defects Registry.
- Successfully advocated to expand Michigan's newborn screening panel to include over 40 disorders, including the 29 core disorders recommended by the American College of Obstetrics and Gynecology (ACOG).
- Created a bi-partisan Prematurity Caucus in the Michigan legislature to develop and enact legislation that ensure every Michigan infant a healthy start.