

Funding Priorities

Increasing Access to and Quality of Health Care for Women and Infants

1. Enhancing education and support services for high-risk pregnant women. Preference will be given to interventions that focus on reducing disparities in birth outcomes. This may include March of Dimes programs such as Stork's Nest® and *Comenzando bien*®. *
2. Increasing participation in state or local maternal child health programs (e.g. Medicaid, SCHIP, WIC) through enhanced outreach, education and public awareness.
3. Enhancing preconception/interconception education and support services for women at high-risk due to previous poor outcomes, chronic conditions (i.e. diabetes, hypertension) or other risk factors.

Increasing Availability of Prevention Services

1. Increasing smoking cessation services available to pregnant women who smoke. Preference will be given to prenatal health education and information/referral services that utilize the "5 A's" counseling approach. **
2. Increasing prenatal health education and information/referral services available to pregnant women who use alcohol or other drugs.

Increasing Availability of Genetics Services and Folic Acid Education

1. Enhancing the availability, quality and utilization of genetics services and/or other patient services related to preventable birth defects.
2. Increasing folic acid education and use of multivitamins among women of childbearing age.

* For more information on these March of Dimes programs, contact the Iowa Chapter.

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

Molly Guard, Director of
Program Services
563-323-1701
mguard@marchofdimes.org



2007 Request for Proposals Announcement of Funding

Improving the health of babies by preventing birth defects, prematurity and infant mortality.



GRANT SCHEDULE

Full Proposals Due	Sept. 25, 2006
Notification of Awards	Jan. 2007
Project Year	Jan.—Dec. 2007

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. The campaign includes: 1.) funding research to find the causes of premature birth, 2.) educating women about risk reduction strategies, including the signs and symptoms of premature labor, 3.) providing support to families affected by prematurity, 4.) expanding access to health care coverage so that more women can get early and adequate prenatal care, 5.) helping health care providers learn ways to help reduce the risk of early delivery, and 6.) advocating for access to insurance to improve maternity care and infant health outcomes.

As part of this effort, the Iowa Chapter 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.

Proposals will be accepted from organizations with the capacity, competence and experience to accomplish project goals and objectives through one of the following strategies:

- Increasing Access to and Quality of Health Care for Women and Infants
- Increasing Availability of Prevention Services
- Increasing Availability of Genetics Services and Folic Acid Education

Funding Available

The applicant must provide services in Iowa. The chapter community grants fund for 2007 is approximately \$54,000. It is anticipated that 8 projects will be funded, with awards ranging from approximately \$3,000 to \$10,000 each. Chapter community grants are approved for one year.

In addition, \$6,000 is available for small one-time projects. There is a shorter application for these awards. Grants will range from \$1,000 to \$2,999 each.

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

Grant applicants are required to attend a technical assistance workshop prior to submitting an application. To sign up, contact Molly Guard at 563-323-1701 or your local March of Dimes office.

Cedar Rapids	8/3/06	10:00 am
Des Moines	Call for information	
Sioux City	8/2/06	2:30 pm
Dubuque	7/26/06	1:00 pm
Davenport	7/25/06	10:00 am

APPLICATION & REVIEW PROCESS

To apply, applicants should first obtain the full application guidelines and required forms. Proposals must address at least one of the funding priorities listed in this brochure. An original grant proposal and 2 copies must be received in the chapter office by September 25, 2006. Please be advised that proposals are non-binding.

Proposals will be reviewed by a multi-disciplinary Program Services Committee. Applicants will be notified of their proposal's status in **January, 2007**. The grant period is from **Jan. - Dec. 2007**.

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.

CURRENT GRANTEES

In 2006, the March of Dimes Iowa State Chapter funded a variety of projects, including:

- Crittenton Center
- Grinnell Regional Medical Center
- HomeCare Services
- Matura Action Corp.
- Mercy Medical Center (Clinton)
- Siouxland Health Dept.
- Washington Co. Public Health
- Young Parents Network
- Youth and Shelter Services

**FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
OR TO OBTAIN AN APPLICATION,
VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT
WWW.MARCHOFDIMES.COM/IOWA
OR CONTACT:**

Molly Guard, Director of Program Services
563-323-1701
mguard@marchofdimes.com