



NEWS RELEASE

Central Ohio Pathways HUB Receives \$175K Grant from Ohio Commission on Minority Health to Serve At-Risk, Pregnant Minority Women

March 11, 2020 – COLUMBUS, Ohio – The Central Ohio Pathways HUB (HUB) was recently awarded \$175,000 by the Ohio Commission on Minority Health (OCMH) to address the infant mortality epidemic in the county. While the Commission’s grant focuses on Franklin County, eliminating health disparities for minority populations in the region is a key area of focus for the HUB. Because of the disproportionate impact that poor birth outcomes and infant mortality disparities have on African American women, this funding is designed to help target efforts for that population and all at-risk women. The HUB’s Community Health Workers (CHWs) are able to make connections with pregnant mothers and ensure they are receiving the services they need, when they need them throughout their pregnancy.

“This funding will strengthen the HUB's ability to provide quality prenatal services to mothers and their babies in central Ohio, particularly early in pregnancy,” explains Jenelle Hoseus, executive director of the Central Ohio Pathways HUB). “Research tells us that early intervention in pregnancy leads to higher birth weight and healthier babies, which increases their likelihood to thrive once born.”

The grant requires the HUB to focus on:

- Improving the gestational age at birth and the birth weight of babies born to at-risk mothers;
- Social determinants of health (the other 19 HUB pathways) of pregnant mothers that are barriers to at-term, healthy birth weight babies; and
- Quality improvement in the retention rate of pregnant mothers receiving services. For example, if a mother does not continue to participate once they open a pathway, the HUB should make an effort to reengage with the mother and analyze what worked or did not work in the process. This assessment should include program successes and challenges, as well as community health workers and HUB management feedback.

Preparing for Minority Health Month, April 2020

As an OCMH grantee, the Central Ohio Pathways HUB will be an exhibitor at the Commission’s 2020 Minority Health Month Expo and Awards Ceremony on March 24 at the Vern Riffe Center. This is an opportunity for HUBs from around the state and other OCMH grantees to showcase the work they are doing on behalf of the Commission. This event is Ohio’s official kick-off to Minority Health Month in April. To learn more about Minority Health Month and a complete calendar of events, visit <https://mih.ohio.gov/Minority-Health-Month>.

About the HUB

Managed by the Healthcare Collaborative of Greater Columbus, the Central Ohio Pathways HUB is a neutral, central convener that connects our community's most vulnerable citizens with healthcare and community resources and creates accountability for measurable outcomes. The HUB, originally created by Dr.'s Mark and Sarah Redding of Mansfield, Ohio, is a nationally recognized and accredited model designed to address the fact that many vulnerable and high-risk individuals are seeking care and assistance from many different community organizations. The HUB model allows us to find, treat, and measure the outcomes of these individuals in a streamlined manner.

About HCGC

As one of over 30 Regional Health Improvement Collaboratives (RHICs) across the country, the Healthcare Collaborative of Greater Columbus provides a neutral, safe space that brings together providers, hospitals, social service agencies, public and private insurance, employers, government, public health, patients, and consumers to improve the quality, delivery, and value of healthcare and the overall health for all people in the Columbus region. For more information, visit: www.hcgc.org.

About the Commission

The Ohio Commission on Minority Health is dedicated to eliminating disparities in minority health through innovative strategies and financial opportunities, public health promotion, legislative action, public policy and systems change. For more information, visit <https://mih.ohio.gov/>.

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