B’more for Healthy Babies Results and Vision for Baltimore City

The Bold Vision

All of Baltimore’s children are born healthy and ready to grow and thrive in healthy families
10 Years of B’more for Healthy Babies

Improved Access and Quality Through Care Coordination

Coordinated Home Visiting

Policy and Systems Change

150 Partners Behind the Scenes

A better way of working

Improved Access and Quality Through Care Coordination
32% Reduction in Infant Mortality

- 15% increase from 2000 to 2009
- 32% decrease from 2009 to 2018

54% Reduction in Teen Birth

Launch of BHB
More BHB Results, 2009-2018

36% reduction in Black-White racial disparity in infant mortality

41% decrease in sleep-related infant deaths

76% decrease in Black-White disparity in teen birth

600+ cribs and in-home safe sleep education sessions every year

Care coordination for more than 4,300 high-risk pregnant women and infants every year

Zero infant mortality in Upton/Druid Heights for 2 years

We Still Have a Problem

![Graph showing infant mortality trends from 2000 to 2018 for White and Black populations. The graph shows a decrease in mortality rates, with a notable decrease in Black mortality rates after 2005.]
Baltimore City

- City of neighborhoods
- Population of 619,000 people
  - 63% Non-Hispanic Black
  - 28% Non-Hispanic White
  - 5% Hispanic
  - 3% Asian
  - 1% All other races
- 34% of children live below the poverty line
- ~7,600 births annually
- 7 delivery hospitals and world-class health care

Most Baltimore Maps Are the Same

- Food Deserts
- Shooting Calls
- Vacancies
- Redlining

Most indicators—health, economics, violence, built environment—break along the White L and the Black Butterfly
Why is There a Disparity in Infant Mortality?

- **It’s Not Race**
  Differences in maternal behavior and genetics do not explain the racial disparity

- **It’s Not Poverty**
  Poverty and education matter but also don’t fully explain the disparity

- **It’s Experiences of Racism**
  - Racial residential segregation (isolation segregation)
  - Biological response to chronic stress over the life course

To eliminate infant mortality and disparities in maternal and child health in Baltimore, we must do four things:

1. **Improve health before pregnancy**
2. **Ensure quality care during pregnancy**
3. **Support families to raise healthy babies**
4. **Promote social and economic justice**
BHB Framework for Advancing Equity in Maternal and Child Health

Rally Around Priority Health Areas

Communications campaigns, policy change, improved services, community mobilization for each area

- Mental health and stress
- Nutrition
- Parenting
- Safe infant sleep
- Sexual health
- Social-emotional development
- Substance use
Advocate for Equitable Policies

Three types of policy change targets:
- Funding and service improvement
- Priority health areas
- Social determinants of health/anti-racism

Mobilize Community

BHB Communities
- Support teams in Upton/Druid Heights and Patterson Park
- Piloting partnership with Judy Centers in high-risk neighborhoods

Faith-based outreach
Citywide events
Community Advisory Board
Transform Services for Families

Public health—Care coordination, home visiting, WIC, early intervention, immunizations, family planning, Judy Centers

Health care services—Obstetric, pediatric

Social services—Housing, income, and more

Accountable

Connect People to Resources

Make sure every part of BHB connects individuals and families to resources using one always updated database
The Bedrock of BHB—The Centralized Intake System

Referral Sources
For pregnant women
- Health care providers
- Prenatal Risk Assessment at first prenatal care visit
- Community organizations
- Self-referrals
For women with infants
- Hospitals via the Postpartum Infant & Maternal Referral
- Community organizations
- Self-referrals

Centralized Intake System
- Central resource database
  - Easier navigation
  - Single point of access
  - Referral to appropriate resources
- No duplication of services
- Staggered communication with providers

BHB home visiting
- In-home support through the City’s network of home visiting programs, including Healthy Start

BHB’s group programs
- Prenatal education (Mom’s Clubs)
- Group support (HPHC Project)
- Nutrition/fitness classes (Bmore Fit)

Support services
- WIC
- Baltimore Infants & Toddlers Program
- Mental health and substance use services
- Adolescent reproductive health services

Social determinants
- Housing including emergency shelter and legal assistance
- GED & literacy classes
- Job training and mentoring
- Income supports including WIC, TANF, Earned Income Tax Credits
- Services for families experiencing violence

Health care services
- Navigation of health benefits
- Primary care and specialty care

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http://www.healthybabiesbaltimore.com
Thank You!

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