

PRESS RELEASE

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**The Children's Home Society of New Jersey Offering
Free & Confidential Health and Pregnancy Services in Ocean County**



Toms River, NJ (August 10, 2015) – The Improving Pregnancy Outcomes (IPO) Program: Every Woman Counts has joined with The Children's Home Society of New Jersey (CHSoF NJ) Ocean County Family Success Center (OCFSC) to provide a variety of free health services and support to teens and women of childbearing age in Ocean County, NJ. **Free and Confidential services include pregnancy testing, health and well-being classes, one-on-one support, informational resources, assistance with NJ Family Care applications, and referrals to WIC, Head Start, the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and local health centers.** CHSoF NJ's IPO program will offer workshops on nutrition, stress management, prenatal care, childbirth preparation, baby care, and safety, and will work with trained Community Health Workers to provide assistance in obtaining donations of folic acid, diapers, and other baby essentials. In addition, the IPO program works in collaboration with the Central Jersey Family Health Consortium to provide referrals, perinatal risk assessments and linkages via the newly created Ocean County Central Intake system managed by the Consortium.

CHSoF NJ hopes that its partnership with the IPO program will help reach more women within the community and educate them about preconception and prenatal care, as well as how to care for themselves between pregnancies.

"We are committed to improving birth outcomes in New Jersey," said Maritza I. Raimundi-Petroski, Director of CHSoF NJ's Maternal/Child Health, Family and Community Support Services. She continued, "This program empowers the women of Ocean County to take charge of their reproductive health by providing critical education and linking them to important resources in their community. We are confident that CHSoF NJ's partnership with IPO will lead to more successful pregnancies in Ocean County, and we are so proud to provide these services."

CHSoFNJ offers a continuum of services throughout New Jersey, from free pregnancy testing, to birth parent counseling, foster care and adoption, clinical counseling services, Hurricane Sandy relief services, and so much more. To learn about the many opportunities and services available to you and your family, please contact CHSoFNJ's Ocean County Family Success Center at 732-557-5037.

About The Children's Home Society of New Jersey

The Children's Home Society of New Jersey is a nonprofit child and family serving agency whose mission is to save children's lives and build healthy families. Founded in 1894, the agency protects abused or neglected infants and at-risk children by ensuring stable, permanent, and loving homes for each and every child it serves. All services are confidential and most are free. For more information, visit our website at www.chsofnj.org.

About The Ocean County Family Success Center

The Children's Home Society of New Jersey's Ocean County Family Success Center (OCFSC) is located at 1433 Hooper Avenue, Suite 121 in Toms River. The OCFSC is open Monday, Thursday & Friday from 8:30AM – 4:30PM, Tuesday from 12:00PM – 8:00PM, and Wednesday 11:00AM – 7:00PM. Services available to participants include access to parent education, parent-child activities, housing services, job readiness, home visiting, information and referrals. All services are free and confidential, and offered in English and Spanish. For more information about the OCFSC, call **732-557-5037**. To learn more about the Sandy Homeowner/Renter Assistance Program (SHRAP), please call **732-608-7238** or visit our website at www.chsofnj.org.

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