

PRESS RELEASE

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PR Contact: Denise Wentzler – dwentzler@chsofnj.org or 609-695-6274 x153

The Children's Home Society of New Jersey Receives \$25,000 Grant from the Horizon Foundation for New Jersey to support Trenton Women's Health Literacy Project



Participants from The Children's Home Society of New Jersey CUNA Program.

Trenton, NJ (April 20, 2015) – Earlier this year, the Horizon Foundation for New Jersey announced its decision to award a \$25,000 grant to The Children's Home Society of New Jersey (CHSofNJ) in support of a new initiative; the Trenton Women's Health Literacy Project. The program will be delivered within CHSofNJ's Maternal/Child Health, Family and Community Support Services, and will supplement its existing services, which include preconception, prenatal and postnatal programs.

Maritza I. Raimundi-Petroski, CHSofNJ's Director of Maternal/Child Health, Family and Community Support Services expressed her support of the program, saying, "We are thrilled to introduce the Trenton Women's Health Literacy Project to our community, and proud to play a role in empowering Mercer County women to make informed decisions about their health and the health of their families."

The CHSofNJ Trenton Women's Health Literacy Project, designed to improve access to health care resources for the county's at risk female population, commenced on January 1, 2015, and will serve 1,000 low-income women and adolescent girls in Mercer County through 2015 and 2016. Services will be delivered in both English and Spanish at several community locations throughout the Mercer County.

Through a variety of confidential health examinations that will screen for pregnancy, substance abuse, domestic violence, depression, and overall health, CHSofNJ women's health advocates will identify appropriate health care linkages and introduce women to local health professionals. Connections will be made to community nutrition and health education services such as Rutgers Cooperative Extension; Jewish Family and Children's Services; Womenspace; WIC; Henry J. Austin; and Horizon NJ Health. Pregnant women will be referred to CHSofNJ's 36-hour prenatal health course.

“One of our priorities is to ensure health information is in plain and understandable language and widely accessible to all New Jersey residents,” said Jonathan R. Pearson, Executive Director of the Horizon Foundation for New Jersey. “We are pleased to support The Children’s Home Society of New Jersey as it works to bring health literacy to the communities it serves.”

In addition to fostering connections to a variety of skilled health professionals, CHSofNJ women’s health advocates will help participants complete the enrollment process for health insurance, and assist in the scheduling of and preparation for appointments. Advocates will collaborate with community partners to provide thorough health education programs, engage women in effective health care services that are culturally and linguistically appropriate, and support them to become informed health care advocates for themselves and their families.

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 Horizon Foundation for New Jersey

The Horizon Foundation for New Jersey is committed to working alongside those who can help us improve our neighbors’ health, inform their health decisions and inspire them to lead healthier, more fulfilling lives. The Foundation’s new funding pillars are Caring, Connecting and Creating. Horizon Blue Cross Blue Shield of New Jersey is the sole member of the Horizon Foundation for New Jersey, both of which are independent licensees of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association. For more information please visit www.Horizonblue.com/Foundation.

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