

PRESS RELEASE

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The Horizon Foundation for New Jersey Helps Low-Income Women and their Families through the Trenton Women's Health Literacy Project



Pregnant women in The Trenton Women's Health Literacy Project discuss challenges of the third trimester

Trenton, NJ (October 5, 2016) – Hundreds of Trenton women and their families working with The Children's Home Society of New Jersey (CHSofNJ) have been helped through The Trenton Women's Health Literacy Project, which receives generous support from The Horizon Foundation for New Jersey and other corporate and government funders.

Funding from The Horizon Foundation for New Jersey supports Women's Health Advocates at CHSofNJ who help low-income and at-risk Trenton women navigate the health care system to receive needed health care services. The Women's Health Advocates provide health education, assist participating women in receiving needed health screenings and link them to health care providers including for primary care, behavioral health care, prenatal care and gynecological care. Results to date include: 384 women and girls have received needed health screenings including free, bilingual, and confidential pregnancy testing; and screenings for depression, domestic violence, substance abuse, and mental and physical health; 234 women were assisted in applying for New Jersey Family Care – health insurance for low-income children and adults; and 84 pregnant women enrolled in the CHSofNJ prenatal health education program designed to increase use of prenatal vitamins; and improve birth outcomes, access to wellness care, adherence to immunization schedules for infants and breastfeeding success rates. The

prenatal health education classes are offered in both English and Spanish – significant because 30 percent of Trenton residents are Spanish-speaking.

CHSofNJ is truly grateful that earlier this year, The Horizon Foundation for New Jersey awarded this grant of \$25,000 to The Trenton Women’s Health Literacy Project to assist low-income women and their families through these services. This crucial funding, awarded through a competitive grant process, enables CHSofNJ to continue to provide needed services – building on the work supported by a 2015 grant for The Trenton Women’s Health Literacy Project from The Horizon Foundation for New Jersey.

“The Horizon Foundation is proud to work with community-based organizations that are committed to ensuring all New Jerseyans have access to services that keep them healthy,” said Jonathan R. Pearson, Executive Director of The Horizon Foundation. “We applaud the Children’s Home Society of New Jersey for bringing important wellness services to at-risk women and families.”

The project is delivered within the CHSofNJ Division for Maternal/Child Health, Family, and Community Support. Other services CHSofNJ provides under this division include: preconception, prenatal and postnatal programs; the Mercer County Women, Infants and Children (WIC) nutrition program; breastfeeding support; nutrition services; and two Family Success Centers in Trenton and one Family Success Center in Ocean County that deliver a range of one-on-one and group education and community-building services and activities, helping families to access resources and information and to build connections.

Maritza I. Raimundi-Petroski, Director of CHSofNJ’s Division for Maternal/Child Health, Family, and Community Support has been elated by the continuing assistance of The Horizon Foundation for New Jersey for this important project for the women and adolescents of Trenton. “We are committed to providing inclusive and effective health and education services to our communities, and the Trenton Women’s Health Literacy Project is a valuable component of our comprehensive approach to women’s health care and education. I am truly excited by this outstanding show of ongoing support by The Horizon Foundation for New Jersey for the important work we do here at CHSofNJ,” said Raimundi-Petroski.

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 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.Community.HorizonBlue.com.

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