



Making Our Moms Successful (M.O.M.S.) works to improve the birth outcomes of women by making perinatal health and safety resources available to mothers from the comfort of their homes.

THE ISSUE

The unexpected complications of pregnancy are difficult and emotionally draining. Unfortunately, for many families in greater Atlanta, that is the reality. One in every eleven babies are born at a low birth weight. Babies born with low birth-weight are more likely to suffer from severe developmental delays that are likely to carry forward through adolescence and adulthood. This public health problem is a significant economic and emotional toll not only to unsuspecting families, but also to communities.

UNITED WAY'S ROLE

M.O.M.S. is focused on improving the birth outcomes of women by making perinatal health resources available to mothers from the comfort of their homes. The program employs trained home visitors to guide women through the nuances of early motherhood. Using Resource Mothers® and Parents as Teachers® (PAT) Born to Learn®, evidence-based curricula proven to improve outcomes for mothers and their children, M.O.M.S. home visitors establish bonds with young families, assess their living environment, and teach young mothers valuable parenting skills. Services provided include housing support, breastfeeding/nutrition education and assistance, home/crib safety assessments, Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS) education, healthcare referrals, infant carrier and child car seat workshops and education and assistance regarding violence and domestic abuse. United Way is the lead partner for this initiative, maintaining partner relationships, reviewing data and goal progress, and setting key milestones. Through the program, United Way has supported an integrated approach in creating a seamless system of care for families. We help to make the Clayton County System of Care approach a reality to connect moms to social supports, housing stabilization, health insurance coverage, a medical home, childhood disease immunization and developmental screenings.

THE RESULTS

In 2016, among the 82 women & babies enrolled in the M.O.M.S. program:

- 100% of babies were born at a healthy weight at or over 5.5 lbs
- 93% were full term births at or over 37 weeks gestation
- 98 percent achieved developmental milestones (ASQ3 & SE)
- 87 percent of the children are immunized against childhood disease
- 304 home visits were conducted

