



## COMMUNITY

Our programs help moms-to-be in the United States have full-term pregnancies and healthy babies.



## ADVOCACY

We advocate for legislation, services and programs that help moms in the United States get care and services to improve their health and the health of their babies.



## RESEARCH

We research the serious problems that threaten our babies and work on treating and preventing them.



## EDUCATION

From preconception health classes for families-to-be to continuing education for nurses, in every conceivable media, the March of Dimes provides resources to improve maternal and child health.



## SUPPORT

Through our online community and in hospitals in the United States, we offer comfort and information to families with a newborn in intensive care.

### Annually in Texas:

- 399,766 babies are born.
- 41,345 babies are born preterm.
- 12,110 babies are born with a birth defect.
- Prematurity and birth defects are leading causes of infant mortality.
- 2,255 babies die before reaching their first birthday.
- The societal cost of premature birth is \$2.1 billion.

In the last year, the March of Dimes

- funded research grants totaling nearly \$24 million nationally
- invested \$635,000 in maternal and child health community grants in Texas



A FIGHTING CHANCE FOR EVERY BABY™

[marchofdimes.org](http://marchofdimes.org)

#### Sources and Notes

Births and preterm births—National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS), final natality 2014.

Birth defects—Based on CDC estimate of 1 in 33 babies born with birth defects. Infant

mortality—NCHS, infant mortality, 2013. Societal cost—Institute of Medicine report, 2007.

MOD investment—research and community grants funded in 2015.

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### These programs support our strategic mission throughout the United States:

#### Prematurity Research Centers

At five centers around the United States, teams of brilliant minds from a wide range of disciplines are looking for answers and sharing discoveries. This will ultimately transform our understanding of the causes and preventions for premature birth.

#### NICU Family Support®

Provides comfort and information to families with a premature or critically ill baby who must spend time in a newborn intensive care unit (NICU).

#### Healthy Babies are Worth the Wait®

A March of Dimes initiative to encourage healthy, full-term births. Through education of women and health care providers, quality improvement activities with hospitals, and awareness activities, Healthy Babies are Worth the Wait helps reduce the number of non-medically necessary labor inductions and elective cesarean sections before 39 weeks gestation, and emphasizes that the last few weeks of pregnancy are key for an infant's development.