

Healthy Start Celebrates the New Year with Gratitude

As we ring in 2017, we wanted to take the opportunity to thank the special people and organizations that contributed to our work with moms, babies, and families last year. We recognize that it truly takes a village to help ensure the best possible outcomes for infants in our community, and we are grateful to all of our volunteers, donors, funders, and friends who help make it possible.



Our board member, Patty Benson - who is a longtime member of the Manatee Democratic Women's Club (DWC) and leads their annual Christmas donation effort - delivered the DWC's gifts for our families in December. We are so grateful to this group of amazing women for keeping Healthy Start babies in their hearts and minds each holiday season!



cloths, quilts, and Moses bassinet liners.

Our other longtime supporters, the Loving Stitches Ministry of Our Lady of the Angels Church and the Trinity Lutheran Church community, donated beautiful hand-made baby hats, burp

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Established in 1992

Executive Director,
Fred Leonard



Our dedicated donor, Norma Baker, made several deliveries throughout the year. She regularly collects baby essentials, helping to keep our Mom's Closets stocked, including the new closet at Palmetto High for pregnant and parenting students. We presented Norma with our Volunteer of the Year award last fall for her dedication and commitment to Healthy Start babies.

We also count on the kindness of volunteers, such as high school student Essence Faison, who helped with much-needed organizing of our Mom's Closet. Even our dedicated Healthy Start team goes above and beyond to help with these efforts, like Judy Driscoll, Care Coordinator, who brought her grandchildren in to help organize the closet over a weekend.

Healthy Start Manatee is also grateful to our many friends who attended our Painting with a Purpose event in the fall. It was a fun evening of socializing, painting, and fundraising for our moms and babies!



Additionally, this past year, thanks to the generous individual donors who supported Healthy Start during the 2016 Giving Challenge, we raised \$2,748! The 2016 Challenge wouldn't have been possible without the foundations and partners that spearheaded it. Our gratitude goes, not only to our donors, but also to the Community Foundation of Sarasota County, The Patterson Foundation, Manatee Community Foundation, John S. and James L. Knight Foundation, William G. and Marie Selby Foundation, and the Herald Tribune Media Group.



In Memorium

The Healthy Start team was deeply saddened by the recent passing of one of our most dedicated and inspiring volunteers, Mary Ann Broos, who, at the age of 91, had been contributing her time and talents for close to a decade. Since 2007, Mary Ann shared her sewing expertise to create hundreds of beautiful and useful items, including baby quilts, receiving blankets, and specially-crafted liners for our Moses bassinets, which are provided to families in need of a safe place to put their newborns to sleep. Mary Ann had an impact on many people. Thanks to her loving support of Healthy Start, several of her friends and loved ones have made donations to us in her memory. We will always be grateful to Mary Ann for her invaluable contributions over the years and will miss her greatly.



Healthy Start Manatee Service Delivery Planning Process Underway

Healthy Start Coalition members and community partners have been engaged in our Service Delivery Planning (SDP) update process over the last couple of months. Much of our work is achieved through community partnerships and collaborations and this is particularly true for the development of this plan, which will guide our work for the next five years.

Members of our Service Delivery Plan Update committee – comprised of social service providers, the health department, the school district, county government, Healthy Start clients, and health providers – are helping us to identify maternal and infant-related community health needs and to prioritize our work and resources to best address those needs.



We are currently in the needs assessment and data review phase of the process, which will be followed by a Health Problem Analysis and prioritization phase.

Healthy Start Manatee Risk Screening Data

The Healthy Start system of care utilizes a one-page risk screening tool for obstetric and pediatric providers, as well as other health professionals to identify and refer women and infants who may benefit from our program. This collaborative system helps ensure that women who need our services are able to readily access them.

The Florida Department of Health collects prenatal and infant screening data on a regular basis for all counties. Since the start of our current fiscal year, July 1, 2016 through December 31, 2016, 1,650 pregnant women have been screened, making Manatee County's prenatal screening rate 81.4%. In addition, 1,514 mothers of infants were screened, making the infant screening rate 85.6%.



We are grateful to all of our provider partners who voluntarily conduct Healthy Start patient screening, including the OB practitioners listed here:

Prenatal Risk Screening Rates for Manatee Residents by OB/GYN Providers July 1, 2015 to April 30, 2016	
Provider	Number of Screens
East Manatee Women's Health Center*	594
Edgar H. Price, Jr. OB/GYN*	48
Lakewood Ranch OB/GYN	52
OB/GYN Women's Center	100
River Landings OB/GYN*	103
Premier OB/GYN	88
University Park OB/GYN	59
West Manatee OB/GYN*	140
Providers in Other Counties	466
Total	1,650

*Denotes MCR Health Services Locations (formerly known as Manatee County Rural Health Services)

Healthy Start Coalition of Manatee County, Inc. receives funding from:



AGENCY FOR HEALTH CARE ADMINISTRATION

Client Testimonial

A kind note from client Tiffany to our exceptional Certified Lactation Consultant, Ellen Drews:

- *"Jayce is doing great. He is 11 weeks old now, 14.3 pounds, and he had his best night sleep ever last night, 9.5 hours! I have a huge stash of milk now for when I have to travel for work. We are doing great. It is such a comforting feeling to have someone to reach out to about breastfeeding. Breastfeeding is not only possible, but incredibly rewarding. You provided so many tips that*
- *helped me along the way. For me, knowing how good breast milk is for my baby keeps me driven to only give him that. You taught me about the immune exchange between mom and baby and mom's body adjusting and creating what the baby needs-- that really registered with me. I feel like so many women don't know how magical breast milk is for their baby. Also, when I got discouraged about pumping and you explained what was normal and reassured me-- it was just*
- *awesome."*