

Coalition Members Convene at Healthy Start Manatee's Annual Meeting

Healthy Start's 2017 annual meeting on May 19th was packed with information and celebration! Keynote speaker Laura Brey, VP with the School Based Health Alliance, a national organization, gave an insightful presentation on school based health centers and how this model might benefit Manatee County children and families.



Healthy Start was proud to present our Community Champion award to Mary Ann Legler, youth health advocate, board chair of Healthy Teens Coalition of Manatee County, and the school district's It's your Choice teen pregnancy prevention program coordinator. Mary Ann received the award for her tireless work to improve health access and outcomes for teens, especially with respect to reproductive health and the prevention of early childbearing.



We also had a chance to thank outgoing board members, Ashley Masuga and Tracy Pratt, along with outgoing chair, Tiara

Moten, for their service. Additionally, we took the opportunity to recognize the Employee of the Year, Alicia Ordonez, for her 15th anniversary of service as our MomCare advisor.

We're grateful to all of our Coalition members and community partners who attended the meeting and who support our mission every day! Thank you!



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Family Creations Adoptions

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Established in 1992

Executive Director,
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Healthy Start Manatee Welcomes its Newest Board Member

We're pleased to welcome new board member, Emilee Keen. Emilee is a Manatee County native; she attended the University of Florida and graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in advertising in 2007. Upon graduating, Emilee took a position with Bealls Department Stores and has been with the company ever since. She is now the Director of Marketing and eCommerce for Bunulu Stores, a specialty concept store owned by the Bealls brand. Emilee resides in Palmetto with her husband, CJ.

Our Thanks to the Lakewood Ranch Community Fund

Last fall, Healthy Start Manatee received a generous grant from the Lakewood Ranch Community Fund of the Manatee Community Foundation to support our Infant Safe Sleep Campaign. Thanks to this funding, we were able to purchase 30 pack n'play cribs, which provide a safe place to sleep for infants in need. These cribs were distributed through our face-to-face infant sleep education and SIDS prevention counseling service, which is implemented by our care coordinators.



Healthy Start Manatee Service Delivery Plan Update

Healthy Start has been engaging the community in its process to develop a new, updated Service Delivery Plan, which will serve as a roadmap for the agency's work over the next five years. During this first phase of the process, we've convened community stakeholders to delve into local Maternal Child Health (MCH) data and gain insight into some of the top MCH health indicators. For example, at our March meeting, Holly Shen, MD with our community partner Premier OB/GYN, gave the presentation, "Optimizing Maternal and Fetal Outcomes Across Reproductive Stages."



Armed with the "big picture" of what is most impacting health outcomes for Manatee County mothers and babies, our Service Delivery Plan committee will then be able to prioritize needs, which will be the focus of the next phase of the process, and will take into account new service parameters that Healthy Start Coalitions will be required to adhere to, per the Florida Department of Health (DOH). The plan is due to DOH in July, 2018.

Our Coordinated Intake & Referral Project Highlighted at FL Association of Heathy Start Coalitions Annual Conference

Healthy Start Manatee had the opportunity to share its experience and insight with Healthy Start directors from across the state regarding our Coordinated Intake & Referral (CI&R) project. The goal of the project – funded by Florida Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Initiative – is to streamline the process by which mothers and infants are connected to the services that best meets their needs and preferences.

CI&R Coordinator Marissa Bressi gave a comprehensive overview of how the project has been developed, in collaboration with local partner agencies, and how Manatee County has gone about implementation, which has been done via a gradual phase in of different target groups. Our initial target population focused on pregnant and parenting teens, who we were able to reach with the help of school social workers, Whole Child Advisor Kim Ross, and the school district's TAPP Program. We then expanded our target population to include first-time moms. At this time, we are expanding to targeted zip codes north of the Manatee River.



Thank you, Patty!

After seven years of dedicated service to moms and babies, Healthy Start Care Coordinator Patty Harshbarger is retiring on June 30th. She estimates that her two file cabinets - filled with client files - equate to around 2,000 mothers and infants she's worked with over the years!

"I've really enjoyed getting to know my clients and building close bonds with some of the families," Patty said. She also noted that her work with pregnant women undergoing methadone treatment at PAR has been especially rewarding. Finally, Patty said she will miss working with the Healthy Start team. We will miss you, too, Patty, but wish you all the best in your new adventures! Thank you for your service!



Welcome to our Newest Team Member, Charlene Chirillo

Charlene Chirillo recently joined Healthy Start Manatee as Nurse Health Educator for a teen pregnancy prevention pilot program that will be launched and implemented over the next year, in partnership with Wellcare, a Medicaid Managed Care Organization. In addition to Manatee County, the pilot program will include the Healthy Start Coalitions of Hillsborough, Highlands, and Polk counties.

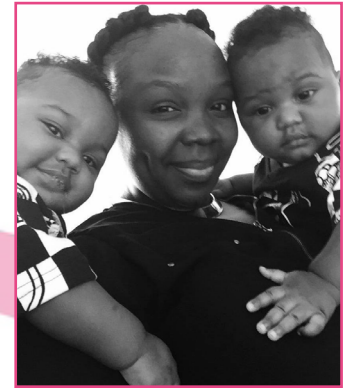


Charlene comes to us with over 25 years' experience in the Maternal Child Health field, with a BS in nursing from Marquette University. A former labor and delivery nurse, she is an RN, a Certified Breastfeeding Counselor (CBC), and an internationally certified childbirth educator. Charlene enjoys supporting mothers in all phases of motherhood, whether it be prenatally, during labor and delivery, or throughout her postpartum journey. Welcome Charlene!

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. Per DOH's provisional data for this fiscal year (July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2017), 3,230 pregnant women have been screened, making Manatee County's prenatal screening rate 88.4%. In addition, 2,794 mothers of infants were screened, making the infant screening rate 85.9%.



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 Fiscal Year 2016-2017	
Provider	Number of Screens
East Manatee Women's Health Center*	609
Edgar H. Price, Jr. OB/GYN*	108
Lakewood Ranch OB/GYN	125
OB/GYN Women's Center	170
River Landings OB/GYN*	296
Premier OB/GYN	150
University Park OB/GYN	118
West Manatee OB/GYN*	743
Providers in Other Counties	911
Total	3,230

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

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



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