

WABASH VALLEY
FIMR
FETAL-INFANT MORTALITY REVIEW

2020-2021
Annual Report



ABOUT THE FETAL - INFANT MORTALITY REVIEW

Over the past decade, more than 150 babies have died in Indiana's Central Southwestern Region, which includes Clay, Greene, Owen, Parke, Putnam, Sullivan, Vermillion, and Vigo counties. In continuation of a string of efforts spearheaded by the Lugar Center for Rural health, the West Central Indiana Healthy Start (WCIHS) program, in collaboration with Regional Hospital, Union Hospital, Vigo County Department of Child Services (DCS), and the Vigo County Department of Health established the region's first Fetal and Infant Mortality Review, or FIMR, program in August 2020. Every year in the Wabash Valley, too many babies are born who do not survive until their first birthday. Additionally, several pregnancies end in stillbirth, a baby born without signs of life. The death of an infant is a community problem . . . and is too multidimensional for responsibility to rest in any one place.

CASE REVIEW FINDINGS



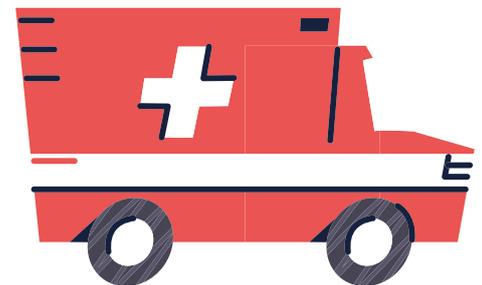
Pre-Pregnancy Health of a Mother

- Lack of substance use disorder resources & treatment
- Lack of access to healthy foods & exercise



Social Determinants of Health

- Poverty, lack of education, empowerment, transportation, violence, etc. = STRESS
- Lack of Safe Sleep Education for caregivers



Siloed, fragmented care

- Disconnect between clinical/medical/ hospital & community support services
- No systemic policy/process for delaying C/S, length of stay for PROM, referral to MFM

RECURRING RECOMMENDATIONS

- Connect pregnant women to substance use disorder services
- Provide community linkages for women and families to access healthy foods and exercise
- Provide kick count education to all pregnant women & empower them to seek medical care when no fetal movement is detected
- Review delivering hospital policies & procedures for delaying C/S, length of stay for PROM, missed diagnoses, and timely referral process to MFM
- Connect ED patients with prescribed medicine prior to discharge
- Provide additional follow-up for patients who miss/no-show their OB appointment
- Reinforce the importance of following the American Academy of Pediatrics Safe Sleep recommendations to families and caregivers
- Reinforce the use of intimate partner violence screening

COMMUNITY ACTION

- Safe Sleep Community Action Team:

- October 22, 2020 – A Safe Sleep Workshop was organized on October 22nd to empower childcare providers to have safe sleep conversations with the families they serve in the Wabash Valley. The workshop was a collaborative effort between Chances and Services for Youth (CASYS), Children’s Bureau, Hamilton Center, West Central Indiana Healthy Start, Union Hospital, and several childcare providers as part of the local Safe Sleep Community Action Team.



Pictured from Left to Right: Connie Hire, Amanda Posey, Kaylee Fagg, Sarah Fagg, & Matthew Herrick

- Education Community Action Team:

- Focus on inconsistencies and gaps in knowledge to disseminate education to providers and increase knowledge around pregnancy and family-related topics.

- Substance Use Disorder Community Action Team:

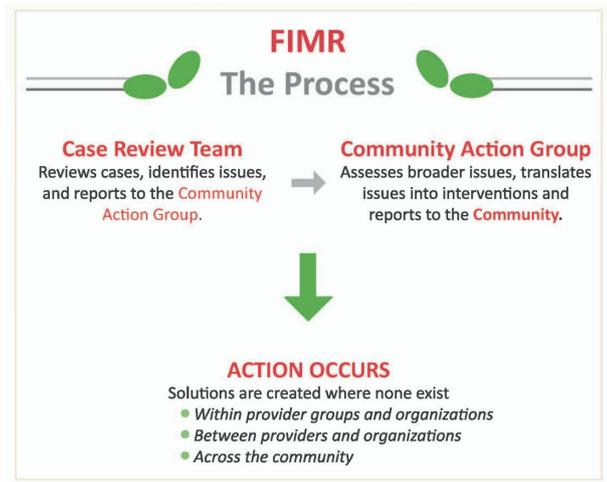
- Collaboration with local substance use initiatives, providing a voice for pregnant/parenting women. The Healthy Start program has hired its first Certified Peer Recovery Coach to meet with families and support them on their way to recovery.

- Dads Matter Coalition:

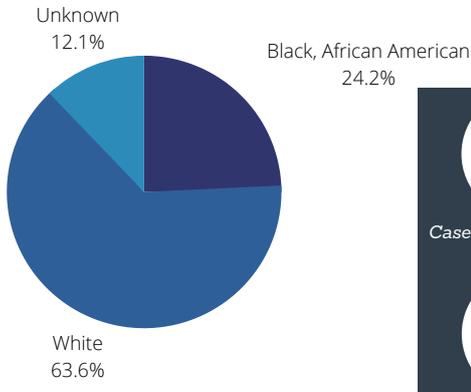
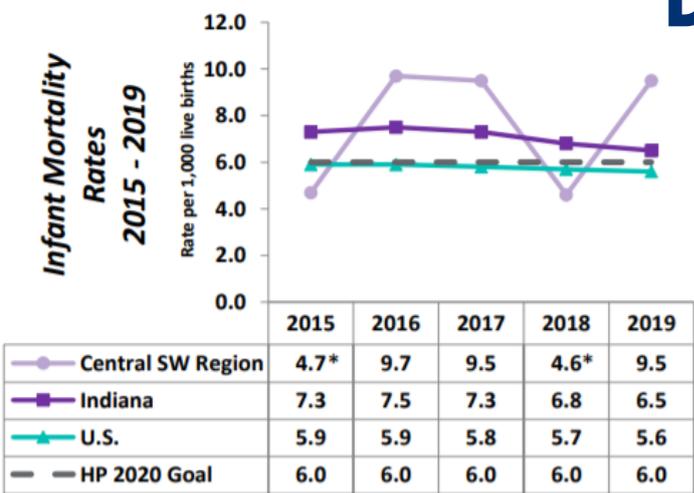
- Held a first annual Dads Matter Cookout to engage fathers in the Wabash Valley and promote healthy relationships with their child(ren).



WABASH VALLEY FIMR



DATA HIGHLIGHTS



23
Cases reviewed: 8 Fetal & 15 Infant

18
Determined to have preventable factors

BEREAVEMENT SPOTLIGHT

- Sue Hoopengartner, bereavement specialist, works with families who experience the loss of a baby during pregnancy or shortly after birth. Sometimes this entails a face-to-face meeting in the doctor's office or wherever their point of entry is..
- For early miscarriages services are offered and families are met at the point of their need. For the late 2nd trimester miscarriages and stillbirths, Sue meets with families to prepare them for the birth discussing things such as what to expect the process to be like, the condition of the baby, options such as seeing the baby, naming the baby, etc. In preparation for them to go home, Sue discusses with them what to expect in terms of themselves, reactions of others, siblings et grandparent's grief, et options for final disposition.
- Families are offered follow up individually at periodic intervals and in a group setting at monthly Parent Support Group meetings.. Sue maintains a memorial garden at Mt. Pleasant Cemetery, plans annual memorials, and provides in-service education programs.
- In 2020, Sue met with 153 new families, made 532 follow up contacts, sent 489 cards, and 2,631 mailings.