

# Supporting Healthy Start Performance Project NEWSLETTER



*Strengthening Healthy Start to support family health and well-being*

## SHSPP News & Updates

### **New Healthy Start Screening Tools: Public Comment Period Open**

There is another opportunity for you to provide your feedback on the new Healthy Start Screening Tools. The 30-day public comment period has just begun and closes on December 9, 2019. Please see the [Federal Register Notice](#) for more information and instructions for submitting public comments.

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### **Fatherhood Talk-Tuesday**

On Tuesday, November 26 the Healthy Start TA Center will host our first “Fatherhood Talk-Tuesday” webinar from 3 - 5 p.m. Eastern Time. We will discuss the new expectation to engage 100 participant-fathers in the Healthy Start Program and explore strategies for inclusion and involvement. Please register [here](#) or at the link below.

FTT Registration: <https://link.nichq.org/FTT-Registration>

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## Resources

### **National Prematurity Awareness Month**

November is [National Prematurity Awareness Month](#). The United States’ [preterm birth rate has increased](#) over the past several years, with over 380,000 babies born prematurely in 2018. March of Dimes recently released its 2019 Report Card, which assigns each state with a grade based on its preterm birth statistics. Key indicators include the preterm birth rate, racial/ethnic disparity ratio, and certain social determinants (e.g., rate of uninsured women, rate of women who received inadequate prenatal care, rate of women living in poverty). Click [here](#) to see how your state compares.

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### **Insight on Safe Sleep for Premature Infants from NICHQ**

NICHQ published an article about the role of breastfeeding in lowering sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS), and the role of bedsharing in increasing the risk. Lori Feldman-Winter, MD, MPH, FAAP – an expert on NICHQ’s National Action Partnership to Promote Safe Sleep Improvement and Innovation Network (NAPPSS-IIN) – highlights the increased risk for premature infants. Read [Bedsharing, Breastfeeding, and Babies Dying: A Conversation Worth Having](#) to learn more.



### **Prematurity Collaborative**

As part of the Addressing Infant Mortality Expert Webinar Series, NICHQ and March of Dimes co-sponsored a session on the [Prematurity Campaign Collaborative](#). Featured speakers included Paul Jarris, MD, MBA and Lisa Waddell, MD, MPH. To learn more about the Prematurity Collaborative, click [here](#).



### Preterm Birth Risk Factors

This [resource](#) from the March of Dimes offers important information about preterm labor and birth risk factors, signs and symptoms, and risk-reduction strategies. For a more concise resource, check out this [infographic](#) on the signs and symptoms of preterm labor.

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### **Dads' Impact on Babies' Health at Birth**

A recent article from the University of Rochester (UR) Medical Center highlights a new study conducted by UR's Clinical and Translational Science Institute. [“Dads Matter: Moms Aren't the Only Ones Who Impact Babies' Health at Birth”](#) describes the impact that a father's education level, age, and race/ethnicity can have on the health of their baby at birth.

### **Achieving Equity in Preterm Birth**

The March of Dimes' [Guiding Principles to Achieving Equity in Preterm Birth](#) outlines a set of principles that can be used to inform organizations' efforts to incorporate equity into their work and reduce disparities in preterm birth. The document also includes a full glossary of health equity terms.

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### **Hosting or attending an exciting event or webinar?**

We will use the EPIC Center [Training Calendar](#) to share information about events specifically planned for Healthy Start projects, as well as other relevant webinars, trainings, and other events that are open to the public. If you know of events or trainings that you think other Healthy Start projects should be aware of, please feel free to send information to [healthystart@nichq.org](mailto:healthystart@nichq.org).

Have questions? Either respond to this email or contact the sender on [healthystart@nichq.org](mailto:healthystart@nichq.org)

National Institute for Children's Health Quality (NICHQ), 308 Congress Street, 5th Floor, Boston,  
Massachusetts 02210, United States, 617-391-2700

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