What we don’t know is killing us: how better data will help solve infant mortality

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Where we are today
Local numbers are 2010-2014

Deaths per 1,000 live births

Source: US & 2010 CDC data; Ohio 2012 CDC data; County 2010-2014 vital records data compiled by Hamilton County Public Health and confirmed with Cincinnati Health Department.

Why?

• What we don’t know is killing us
• We are program rich and systems poor.
• We sometimes have the data to improve programs, we don’t have the data to improve systems.
• Social service agencies use different measures and data systems keeping us from knowing where gaps are and what is working the best.
• Despite our common agenda, we don’t have a way to measure standard implementation.
• An aversion to data can cause our community to work tirelessly on the wrong stuff.

We NEED better data
7 steps for using data to build strategic solutions

- Develop a focused common agenda
- Gather and regularly report on as much data as is available
- Create a culture around data
- Understand the complexity of the system
- Understand the size of the gaps
- Use continuous improvement methods to improve in partnership
- Unite around a true shared system of data

1) Develop a common agenda

Focus

Where we start... Then... Then...
2) Gather and report on as much existing data as possible.

3) Create a culture around data
Provisional Data: Jan-April 2015

- Preterm
  - XXX% (<37 weeks)
  - XX% (<32)
  - XX% (<23)
  - Baseline = 13.7%
  - Baseline = 2.9%
  - Baseline = 0.4%

- XX% of moms reported smoking during 2nd and 3rd trimester of pregnancy.
  - Baseline = 11.6%

- 0-XX sleep-related deaths.

*Source: ODH Vital Statistics, Fetal and Infant Mortality Review; Baseline = 2009-2013

4) Understand the complexity of the system
Providers of Medicaid Prenatal Care

- Resident Clinics at TriHealth
- Center for Women’s Health at UCMMC
- Health Beginnings sites (6)
- Cincinnati Health Dept Clinics (5)
- Mercy Health Clinics
- Health Care Connection (3)
- Win Med (2)
- Crossroads Health Center
- Private doctors accepting Medicaid
- Christ Hospital Family Medicine
- Health Source of Ohio Anderson Ob/Gyn

Providers of Social Support Services

- Beech Acres Parenting Center
- Children’s Home
- YWCA – Eastern Ave
- LifePoint Solutions
- Every Child Succeeds
- Santa Maria Community Services
- Services to Adults and Youth
- YWCA - Downtown
- Health Care Access Now
- Healthy Moms and Babes
- Cincinnati Health Department
- TriHealth Outreach Ministries
- Community Action Agency
- First Step Home

5) Understand the size of the gaps
Prenatal care inadequacy

44% of moms on Medicaid are not receiving adequate prenatal care (compared to 13% of privately insured moms)

8% of moms in Hamilton County either don’t access prenatal care at all or access it in the 3rd trimester. (2.5X worse than National Average)

Social service shortage

79% of moms on Medicaid are not being served by the social support services that we know can make a difference.

6) Use continuous improvement methods to improve in partnership.
7) Unite around a shared system

What if…

• What if medical providers had a way to know which social support programs their patients were accessing?

• What if social service providers had a way of knowing how they were doing against commonly agreed upon benchmarks?

• What if funders had a way of knowing which programs were most effective using a standard system of measurement?
Example: Strategies to End Homelessness

- 101 programs that serve the homeless in Cincinnati have united around a single system of data called VESTA.
- Allows for the best ever understanding of the size and needs of our homeless population.
- Allows for “no wrong door” where a homeless individual can enter the system in any way and every agency in the system will know their status.