Infant mortality in the city of Racine

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Purpose

- What is happening in the city of Racine?
- Community partnerships
- Our progress
- Research that supports our practices (If you want resources – we will be happy to share).
  - MCH alerts 6-15 article in Pediatrics – Intensive Home Visiting is associated with decreased risk of infant death
Interrelationship of Factors

- Infant Mortality
- Prenatal Care
- Support Systems
- Significant Other
- Family
- Sleeping Practices
- Premature Birth
- Infant Feeding
- Resources for Support
- Community
- Environment
- State
- Federal

Lisa M. Quenan, BSN, UWM 2007
Partnerships
– these are just the beginning

- Margaret Malnory, MSN, RN – Director Women’s and Children’s Services and ED, WFHC-AS
- Duane Stich, MD, Neonatologist & Director of NICU – WFHC-AS
- Thelma Jones MSN, RN, Director of Community Health Programs
- Representative Cory Mason
- Vivian Jackson, Infant Death Center of WI
- Janine Anderson – reporter at the Journal Times
- Holly Davis – Next Generation Now
- Members from the city of Racine Fire Dept
- Birth-3 programs
- Parish Nurses
- Our students – UWM, UW......
- These are just a few......
Timeline

- Summer 03 – focus on breastfeeding
- 04-06 – Perinatal depression screening
  - Education for all health care providers in in patient, outpatient, and community settings
- August and Nov 2006-RIMC first meetings
- Late fall 06, early spring plans for FIMR
- Raising community awareness – several articles in local papers – many community members interviewed
- 5-07 CUPH grant
- 5-07 Joint finance community unanimously passes funding support for comprehensive home visit programs for Racine
- 6-07 – FIMR committees developed, first meetings and Town Hall Meeting
Funding

- 1st grant – Center Developmental Scientist from Center for Urban Population Health – develop infrastructure for FIMR (fetal and infant mortality review)
Funding

- Representative Cory Mason worked with community partners/agencies/universities
- Research/data to support programs
- Well developed evaluation plan
  - process
  - summative

- Programs that provide appropriate support for mother and baby in utero (PNCC)
- Programs that support mothers and families as they care for their infants and children
  (Comprehensive home visits – through first year of life)
Goal to seek funding will continue....

- Local grants
- Foundation grants
- Federal grants
- In-kind donations: space, resources, personnel.....
Prenatal Care

Impact on infant mortality

- Timing of initiation – more than just insurance and a place to get care
  - how does it feel?
- Number and timing of visits
- Content of care
- Type and education of care provider
- Setting of care
- Evidence-based care practices

- Coordination of other services (educational, nutritional, psychosocial, substance abuse counseling, follow-up services)
- Quality, availability, accessibility of care

Alexander & Kotelchuck, 2001
Maternal factors
Impact on infant mortality

- Race and SES
  - Black baby born to middle class family has higher chance of dying than white baby born to low SES family
- Black baby born in Africa has a better chance of living than one born in America

- Domestic Violence
- Occupation
- Perinatal depression – WFHC – AS (supported in part by WI Association of Perinatal Care)
  - Screening protocols during OB care, at pp visit, during well child care visits through 1st year of life, referrals to Primary Care Provider, Behavioral Health
  - Also screening by staff in Neonatal Intensive care Unit and Pediatrics
Infant Feeding

- Breastfeeding – What does the research tell us?
- Health care professionals are less likely to encourage African American women to breastfeed
- African American women have fewer role models for breastfeeding and their male partners may be more ambivalent
- Breastfed children have a decreased risk of post neonatal death

Chen & Rogan, 2004
Breastfeeding protects against infectious disease through enhanced immunity mechanism, SIDS, accidental death.

Premature infants who receive breastmilk have much lower morbidity and mortality both in the hospital and during the first year of life.

WIC has taken a much more active role in supporting breastfeeding.

Return to paid employment or school.

Formula company marketing discourages breastfeeding.
Community

- Raise Awareness – it is our problem
- Provide postpartum follow-up care
- Racine Infant Mortality Coalition
- Fetal-Infant Mortality Review (development of community teams)

- Home visiting program: Nurse-managed community worker team
- Resources, Education and Care in the Home Program (REACH)

- Boyd, Norr, & Nacion, 2001
How we treat women and children during times of vulnerability reflects on us as a city, a community, a state and a nation. Many of our companion animals are treated with better food, better health care, a safer, warmer, dryer home, and more kindness than the infants, children and families we have talked about today.

- What is our responsibility?