



# Child Advocates of Nevada County

*Today's Children ... Tomorrow's Hope*



**Foothills  
& Truckee  
Healthy Babies**

*Home Visiting*

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Foothills & Truckee Healthy Babies Program

**Funded by:**



# Written Agreements (MOUs) for Universal Screening of Pregnant Women

- *Miners Clinic (AKA Western Sierra Medical Clinic)* - signed current formal annual MOU for screen referrals
- *Sierra Women's Health (Associates- AKA Dr. Leon)* – signed current formal annual MOU for screen referrals
- *Dr Dahle*- signed current formal annual MOU for screen referrals
- *Tahoe Forest*- signed current formal annual MOU for screen referrals
- *WIC*- informal agreement for screen referrals



# MOUs to increase service coordination of home visiting services

- Nevada County Public Health- informal agreement for serving MCAH funded programs to avoid duplication of services. This agreement has been discussed between all parties and is in the process of being formalized with signatures
- Young Parents (AKA Adolescent Family Life Program i.e. AFLP) - informal agreement for serving MCAH funded programs to avoid duplication of services. This agreement has been discussed between all parties and is in the process of being formalized with signatures
- Headstart- signed current formal annual agreement for serving families to avoid duplication of services



# Other MOUs

- Domestic Violence Sexual Assault Coalition (DVSAC)- signed current formal on-going agreement outlining how we work together to help families
- Child Protective Services (CPS)- agreement regarding referrals between FTHB and CPS
- Behavioral Health- informal agreement to provide consultation to direct service staff
- Peace, Love, Swap and Grow- signed current formal agreement (with a 30 day out-clause) for usage of the building for FTHB Socialization Groups



# FTHB Socialization Groups

- **FTHB holds monthly Socialization Groups at both sites to connect parents to other parents and then we track the Social connections-** AKA “informal supports Social connections are the antidote to social isolation.
- “Social isolation is usually defined as a lack of social networks or a limited amount of communication with others. When parents feel isolated-whether that is due to living in a dangerous neighborhood, being far away from family, moving to a new place, or having lives that feel too busy for socializing-they can feel closed in and without support. When parents feel disconnected their level of parental stress can become overwhelming undermining their ability to parent effectively. Research has shown that may potentially lead to abuse and neglect. Parents with a network of emotionally supportive friends, family, and neighbors often find it is easier to care for their children and themselves.”

(Excerpt from: *Protective Factors: Social Connections, National Alliance of Children's Trust & Prevention Funds*).



# Donations as Incentives

- Diapers and Handmade baby quilts- Diapers and/or a blanket to families who are in creative engagement. HV may give a quilt for target baby (upon entry into the FTHB program services) and diapers on an emergency basis
- Gently worn baby clothes, cribs, strollers, etc.
- Baby books- Infant, toddler, and preschooler books- one book for each year birthday of the target baby
- Gift Cards

# Donations as Incentives Cont.

- Cards for participant graduation, child birthdays, anniversaries, mother and father's day (from child), and blank cards for other celebration of milestones such as notes for achieving goals on their IFSP, and/or notes for recruitment and retention

# Collaboration

## **FTHB Community Advisory Board (CAB)**

**CAB Membership:** Miner's Health Clinic; Laura Wilcox Foundation; First 5, Nevada County; Domestic Violence Sexual Assault Coalition; Nevada County Human Services Agency/Children's Mental Health & Public Health; Parent (past participant); Tahoe Forest Hospital; KidZKount (Headstart); Sierra Forever Families

### **CAB Roles:**

- Assist in planning, assessing and implementing FTHB program services by sharing pertinent expertise and experience with the FTHB staff to build a strong program. Provide recommendations to the Program Manager on issues related to the program and policies, and develop policy recommendations if needed.
- Assist in access to client screening referral system; advocate for children and families by sharing information in the community about FTHB program and its goals and by participating in Public Awareness of Foothills and Truckee home visiting programs.
- Actively work with service providers and community organizations representing the western Foothills and Truckee to integrate FTHB's services into a comprehensive safety-net of prevention and intervention services.

# Collaboration Cont.

## **CAB Roles Cont.**

- Promote strong community relations; assist in interagency collaboration and partnerships to leverage opportunities. Share information about FTHB Programs to improve the referral system and community linkages and reduce duplication of services fostering seamless systems and services.
- Establish or improve assisting with the formation of agreements and memorandums of understanding for the FTHB Program referral and service system as needed.
- Identify gaps in services and work toward solutions to address those gaps. Bring ideas and recommendations to the CAB.
- Assist in quality assurance/improvement by participating in evaluation activities as required by the FTHB Program funders.

# Collaboration Cont.

- Community Collaborative of Tahoe Truckee
  - (Perinatal Outreach Team; Child Abuse Prevention Council, etc.)
- Community Support Network of Nevada County
  - (Child Abuse Prevention Council; Miners Clinic, etc.)