



MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF
**HEALTH &
SENIOR SERVICES**

Strong Starts, Healthy Futures: An Overview of Maternal, Child & Family Health

NEW ADMINISTRATOR ORIENTATION

AUGUST 4,, 2026

MCH Leadership Team

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Maternal, Child & Family Health



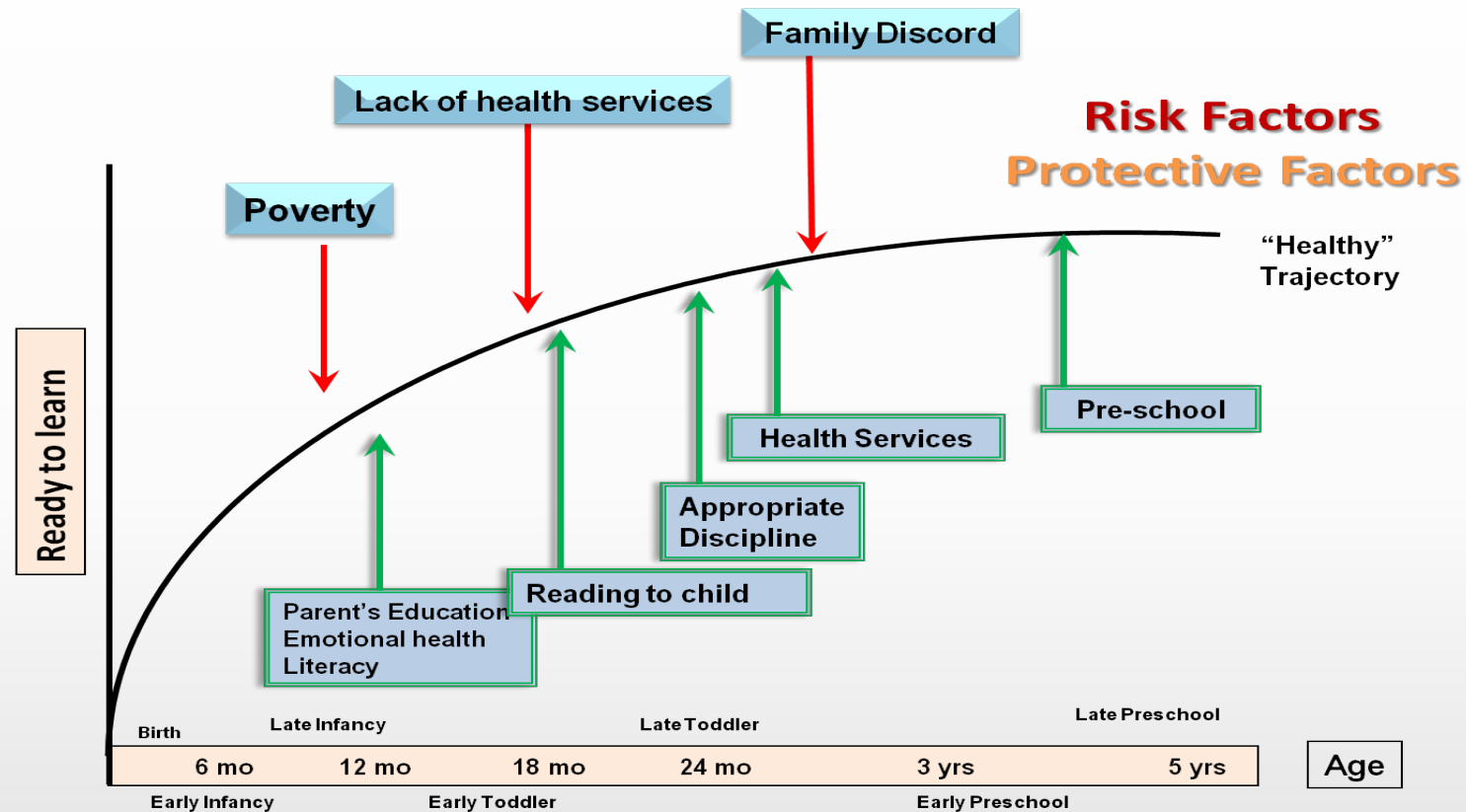
Title V Maternal and Child Health (MCH) Block Grant to States



<https://mchb.hrsa.gov/programs-impact/title-v-maternal-child-health-mch-services-block-grant>



Life Course Perspective - A Foundational Concept of the Title V MCH Block Grant

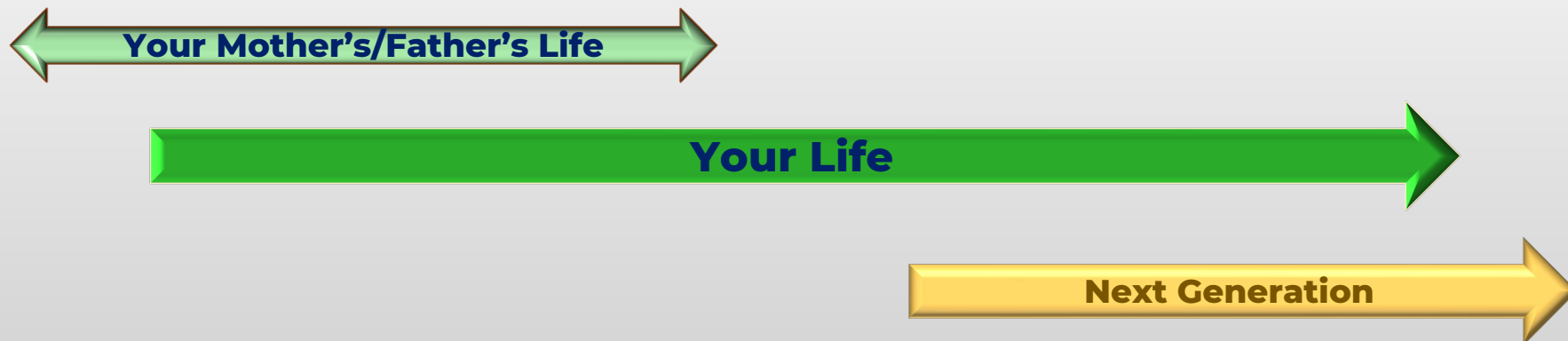


A complex interplay of biological, behavioral, psychological, and social protective and risk factors that contributes to health outcomes across the span of a person's life.

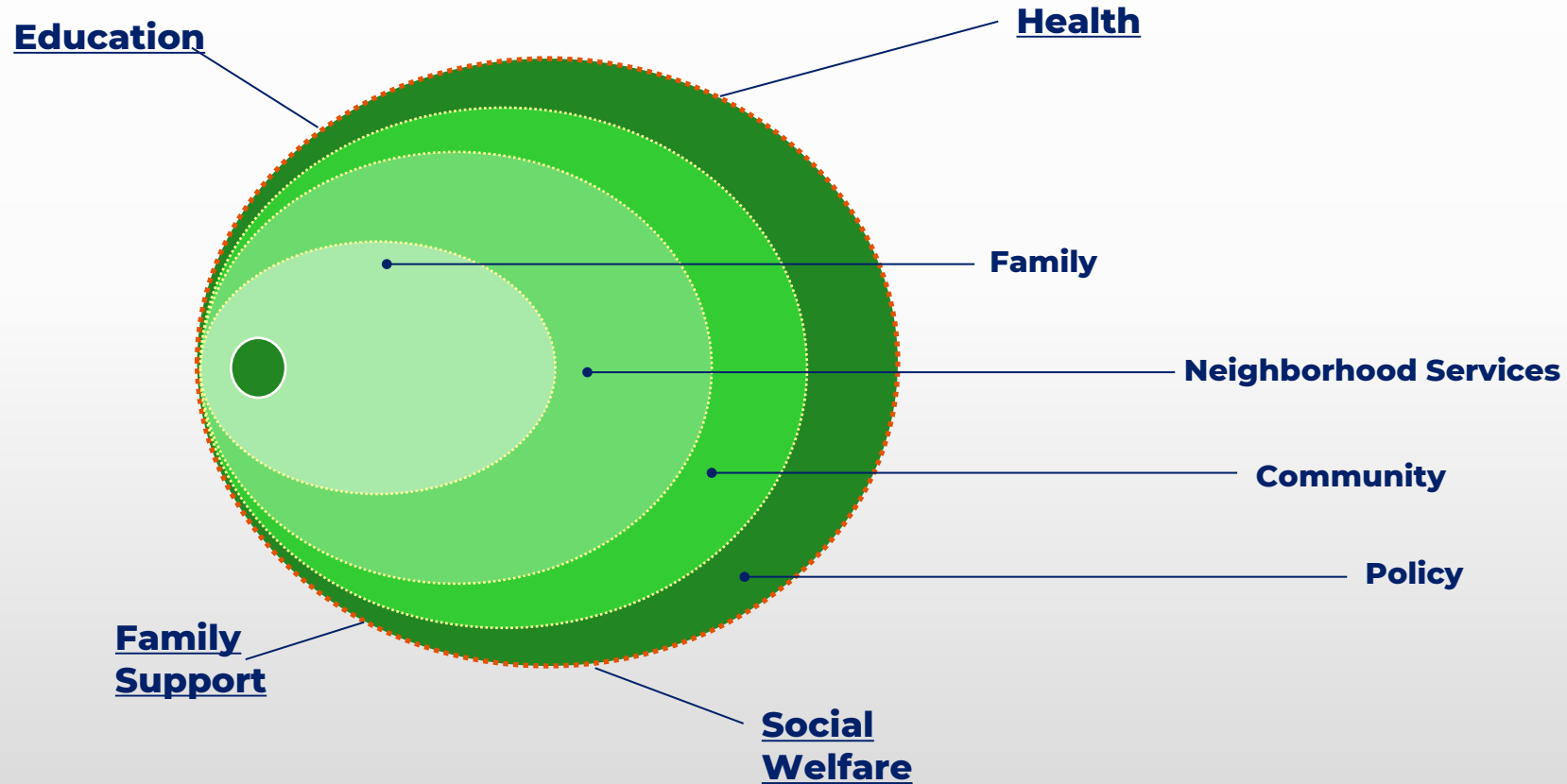
Why the Life Course Perspective?

Looking at health through a life course perspective hopes to address three key areas:

1. Your health as an **individual**
2. Your health before your conception (i.e. your mom's health **pre-conception**)
3. Your children's health (**intergenerational** component)



Health Outcomes are Multi-Factorial





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MCH Priorities

FFY 2026-2030

Core Values

To be applied across all priorities, performance measures, and strategies



Person-centered, strengths-based approach



Family and youth partnership and engagement



Success through enhanced skills, knowledge, and capabilities



Excellence



Collaboration



Access



Integrity



Accountability

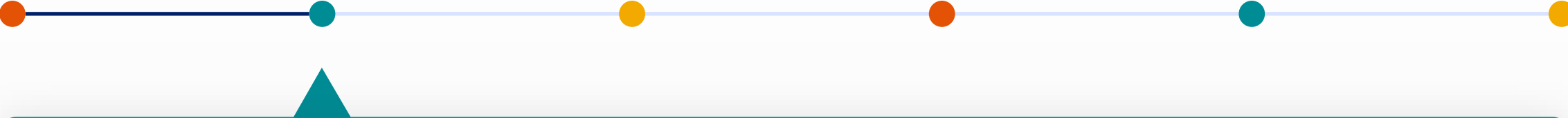
Women/Maternal Health

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National Priority Areas

- 1) Ensure access to patient-centered, coordinated, and comprehensive postpartum care.
- 2) Promote preventative oral health care services during pregnancy.

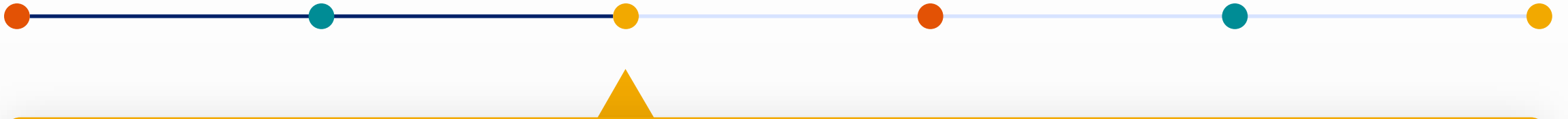
Perinatal/Infant Health



National Priority Area

- 1) Promote safe infant sleep practices and environments to reduce sleep-related infant deaths.

Child Health



National Priority Area

- 1) Enhance access to holistic oral health care services for children.
- 2) Ensure coordinated, comprehensive, and ongoing health care services for children with and without special health care needs.

Adolescent Health

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National Priority Areas

- 1) Promote stable and supportive relationships with a caring, non-parental adult to enhance adolescent psychological well-being and empower youth with the tools and training to reach their full potential.
- 2) Promote a smooth and successful transition from child-centered to adult-oriented health care, promoting continuity of care, improving health outcomes, and empowering youth to manage their own health.

Children with Special Health Care Needs

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National Priority Area

- 1) Ensure coordinated, comprehensive, and ongoing health care services for children with and without special health care needs.

Cross-Cutting/Systems Building

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State Priority Area

- 1) Promote strengths-based services and supports to promote healthy family relationships and functioning, enhance resilience, foster social connections, and support children's social and emotional development.

State Health Improvement Plan



SHIP PRIORITY ISSUE 2:
Infant &
Maternal Health

Maternal Mortality Prevention Plan

Maternal Quality Care Protocols

Compendium of best practice tools, care guidelines, a hospital-level implementation guide, and educational materials

Maternal Health Access Project

Access to comprehensive high-quality specialized maternal health services, including mental health services

Postpartum Plan of Care

Standardized template to plan for and optimize comprehensive postpartum care

Maternal Care Workforce

Standardized maternal care provider trainings

- Trauma-informed & responsive care
- Screening, referral and treatment

MCH Dashboard

FIMR's Purpose

The purpose of FIMR is to conduct comprehensive multidisciplinary review of fetal and infant deaths to understand how a wide array of local social, economic, public health, educational, environmental, and safety issues relate to the tragedy of fetal and infant loss. Additionally, FIMR teams use the findings to take action that can prevent future infant deaths and improve the systems of care and resources for women, infants, and families.

FIMR is an evidence-based process to identify and analyze factors that contribute to fetal and infant death.

Examine confidential, de-identified individual cases of fetal and infant deaths from 24 weeks gestation through 12 months of age.

Two-tiered system

- Community Review Team (CRT) to conduct case reviews
- Community Action Team (CAT) charged with putting CRT recommendations into action

Utilizes a regional approach

- State FIMR program and ten regional FIMR teams
 - Contract with 10 LPHAs
 - ▣ Convene diverse, multidisciplinary groups of professionals
- Large statewide case load
- Contributing factors for fetal and infant deaths often related to local environmental causes
 - Better understood by local communities

Based on the National Fetal and Infant Mortality Review (NFIMR) Program model

- Case identification
- Medical records abstraction
- Home/family interviews
- Case reviews
- Recommendations for action

Together building a maternal-child public health system that addresses the needs of Missouri's mothers, infants, children, adolescents, and families, including children and youth with special health care needs.

Maternal
& Child
Health



Questions?

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<https://health.mo.gov/living/families/mch-block-grant/>

