

# A Crisis Roaring: Infant Mortality in Ohio

AN ASSET BASED RESPONSE AT THE NEIGHBORHOOD LEVEL  
BY  
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT FOR ALL PEOPLE

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**FIRST BIRTHDAY INITIATIVE**  
Supporting Families and Infant Vitality

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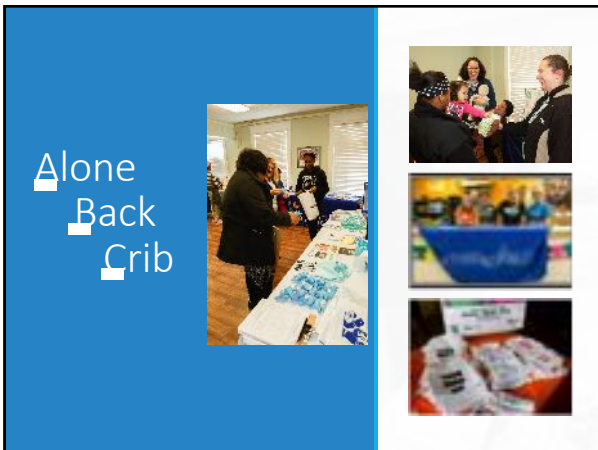
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Fun Activities!



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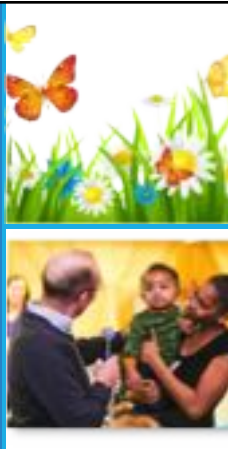
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Blessing Babies

Each of these babies is a beloved child of God!

May they be surrounded by families who love them and care for them to be healthy, happy babies who grow up to be all they were created to be!



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All Stars Celebrating the First Birthday



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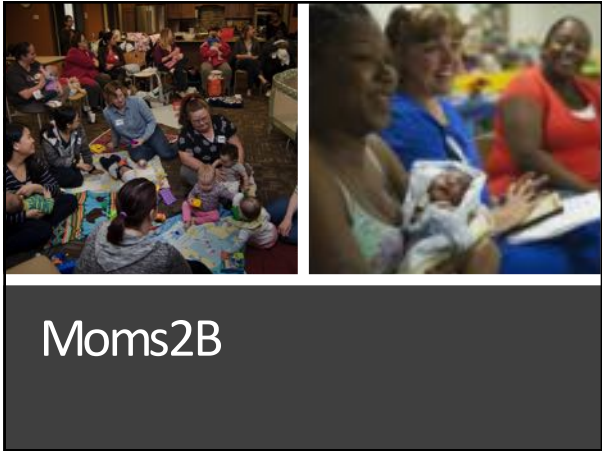
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POLL QUESTION #1

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Care Homes Project

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- 10 rental properties
- 10 pregnant women in 2<sup>nd</sup> trimester
- \$80,000 CareSource grant
- Subsidy 1/2 monthly rent until child's 1<sup>st</sup> birthday
- Moms2B
- CareSource Life Coaches
- CDAP case management & connecting to resources

CareHomes Property

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**On-Going Family Engagement**

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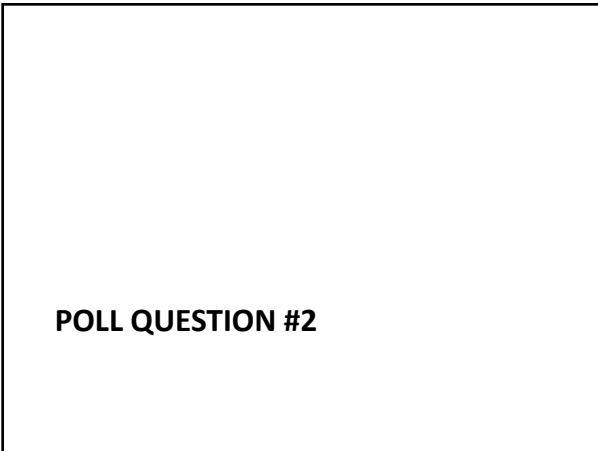
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**POLL QUESTION #2**

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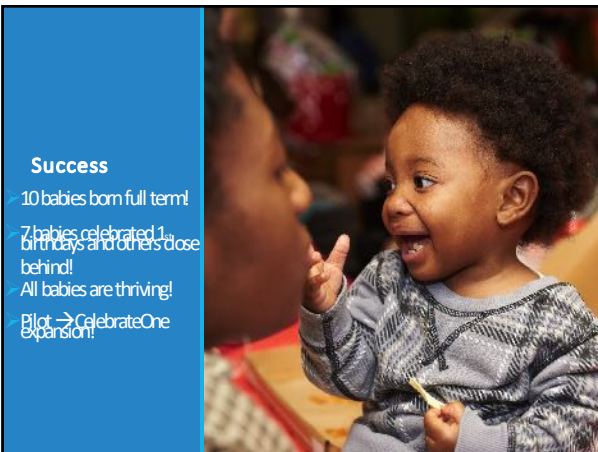
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**Success**

10 babies born full term!  
7 babies celebrated 1<sup>st</sup> birthdays and others close behind!  
All babies are thriving!  
Pilot → CelebrateOne Expansion!

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## Care Homes Video

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## Visible & Significant Success

- ❖ All babies born full term
- ❖ All babies thriving towards a first birthday

Meeting the primary object:  
**100% effective** in achieving the health outcomes

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## Challenges

- ❖ Case management
  - ❖ Most women required higher levels of personal support than anticipated
  - ❖ Many women had no support networks
  - ❖ Many overwhelmed and had difficulty performing basic functions
  - ❖ Coping with pregnancy and parenting consumed attention & resilience

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## Challenges

- ❖ Limited progress toward self-sufficiency
  - ❖ 3 families did not consistently pay 1/2 of rent which was grounds for eviction

Policy Decision: we paid all of the rent until the baby's first birthday – no family forced to move for non-payment

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## Future Prospects for Success

- ❖ 3 families are financially stable
  - ❖ 1 or more adults working
  - ❖ Earning enough to pay rent, utilities & other essentials
- ❖ 4 families making progress toward self-sufficiency
  - ❖ Moms attending school or job training programs
  - ❖ Opportunities for full-time employment
- ❖ 3 families still struggle, do not have stable housing or clear path to self-sufficiency

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## POLL QUESTION #3

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### 3 Salient Learnings

- 1) Stable housing for pregnant women DOES make a difference

“Stable, decent housing is a vaccine that that should be prescribed for every low income family in America.” Megan Sandel, MD

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### 3 Salient Learnings

- 1) Stable housing for pregnant women DOES make a difference

- 2) Case Management is essential
  - a. Families require high levels of personal support and guidance

- 3) Longer term rent subsidies will be beneficial

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### Success!

10 at risk pregnant women

Multi-faceted intervention & stable homes

**100% success rate, 100% savings!**

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Thank You!

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