

Division of Research, Training and Education FACT SHEET

The Division of Research Training and Education (DRTE) supports research, training and community demonstration programs that were established in federal legislation (Title V of Social Security Act) to compliment state and local health agency efforts to meet the unique health service needs of women and children. In partnership with state MCH programs, academic institutions, and professional organizations DRTE collaborates with other health research and training programs of the federal government to ensure that MCH initiatives are based on tested applications of the most recent and emerging science.

MCH Research Program, <http://www.mchb.hrsa.gov/research>

The MCH Research Program supports applied research with the potential to improve the health of mothers, children and families by uncovering strategies for improved services and service delivery systems for individuals, in communities, and at the state and national levels.

Special emphasis is given to studies that examine health disparities, investigate factors that promote quality of care, uncover the social and environmental context of child and family health and wellbeing, and that encourage an integrated view of family health over the lifespan and across generations. A unique feature of the MCH Research Program is its focus on interdisciplinary science that allows the interwoven roles of families, schools, neighborhoods, culture and policies to be explored.

MCH Training, <http://www.mchb.hrsa.gov/training>

The MCH Training Program develops the next generation of MCH leaders who are attuned to the unique needs of children, adolescents, and children with special health care needs at the individual, community and state systems levels. MCH training includes undergraduate, graduate, and post-graduate MCH professions training and workforce development programs as well as initiatives to sustain a community of MCH professionals nationwide.

The program awards grants to public and private nonprofit institutions of higher learning to develop *trainees* for leadership roles in the areas of MCH teaching, research, clinical practice, and/or public health administration. MCHB Training grants also support *faculty* who provide mentoring for trainees and who advance the field through research and dissemination of findings, and who develop curricula to advance MCH knowledge and public health. The MCHB Training Program leads nationally on workforce issues affecting maternal and child health by identifying and collaborating on national strategies to understand and address changing MCH population needs and the capacity of the workforce to address these needs.

Healthy Tomorrows

The Healthy Tomorrows Partnership for Children Program (HT) stimulates innovative community-based programs that employ prevention strategies to promote access to health care for mothers and children.

Demonstration grants are awarded to a wide variety of organizations, including, but not limited to, medical centers, schools, nonprofit service agencies, community-based health providers, and local and State health departments. By design, HT projects specifically involve pediatricians and other pediatric health professionals in community-based service programs and build community and statewide partnerships among professionals in health, education, social services, government, and business.

Combating Autism, <http://www.mchb.hrsa.gov/autism>

The goal of the Combating Autism Program is to improve the health of children, youth and adults who have Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD), or are at risk for, neurodevelopmental or related disabilities. The program uses a set of complementary strategies that raise awareness, reduce barriers to services, develop guidelines for interventions, support intervention research, and training professionals to meet the very specialized diagnostic and service needs of this population of children.

The training component of the program is accomplished through the interdisciplinary MCH Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental and Other Related Disabilities (LEND) and Developmental Behavioral Pediatrics programs that are located in 38 states.

Two research networks develop evidence-based guidelines, validate tools for interventions and disseminate critical information on research findings, guidelines and tool validation activities to health professionals and the public, especially families impacted by Autism Spectrum Disorders and other developmental disabilities. One network conducts studies focusing on physical health and the other focuses on physical health. A national resource center is funded to meet the support needs of interdisciplinary training programs.

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