

April, 2014

Providing Useful and Easy-to-Access Data for Improved Maternal and Child Health Services

Reliable Data Needed for Grant Application

The [Partnership for Maternal and Child Health of Northern New Jersey](#) (The Partnership) was completing a request for funding to expand their home visitation programs. The Partnership needed to include several kinds of detailed birth data in their proposal to clearly identify the populations they wanted to serve.



Data from NJSHAD is Readily Accessible

The Partnership was able to obtain the data it needed from the [New Jersey State Health Assessment Data](#) (NJSHAD) system. The [NJSHAD birth query tool](#) provides data on births by birth weight, duration of pregnancy, onset of prenatal care, race, ethnicity, county, and municipality. Since NJSHAD had these data available online, The Partnership easily accessed the system, queried the data, and downloaded data to include in their funding proposal. Having 24-hour access to easy-to-understand data and information made it easy for The Partnership to identify, describe, and plan interventions for populations in need.

Grant Funding Results in Needed Services for New Jersey Families

Because of the data available through NJSHAD, The Partnership thoroughly outlined the needs of the populations that would benefit from services provided with the funds. The Partnership was awarded \$477,536 by the New Jersey Department of Children and Families to offer the [Parents as Teachers](#) home visitation program and the [Nurse Family Partnership](#) home visitation program. The Partnership is now able to provide home visitation services to 110 additional families in northern New Jersey.



Naomi Savitz, Director of Quality Assurance at The Partnership notes, “I was able to download the detailed data I needed, outside of normal business hours. NJSHAD is a really helpful tool; it makes New Jersey data accessible any time, from anywhere.”

NJSHAD serves as the main data portal for NJDOH and provides public access to data and information from the entire New Jersey Department of Health. NJSHAD provides static public health indicators which combine data and information, and dynamic custom public health query tools. The functionality, content, and utility of NJSHAD are constantly being enhanced.