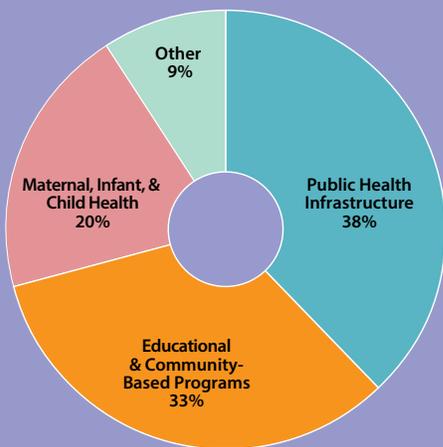


Preventive Health and Health Services Block Grant

Maine

How Maine Invested PHS Block Grant Funding

Total FY 2015 Funding: \$1,245,153



The Bridging Program: Getting Babies the Medical Care They Need

Too many babies in Washington County, Maine, are born prematurely or are born with drugs in their systems. These children are more likely to have health problems, need special medical care, and visit the emergency room. The Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention (MeCDC) used a portion of its Preventive Health and Health Services (PHHS) Block Grant funding to create the Bridging Program to meet the complicated needs of premature babies, babies with health problems, and babies who are born with drugs in their systems.

MeCDC's Bridging Program offers each baby and family an individualized plan for support and services that addresses the family's needs and concerns. The families develop close relationships with program staff members, called "bridgers." Bridgers help a family manage all of the aspects of care needed to improve their baby's health, including access to early intervention services such as home visiting programs, nursing support, physical therapy appointments, and parent education.

The Bridging Program has helped many Washington County babies stay healthy. The program reduced the amount of time newborns spent in the hospital after birth by almost a week, and it decreased how often they were brought back to the hospital for care during their first few months of life. The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration has identified the Bridging Program as a promising practice—a program that saves lives, saves money, and is a model that other health departments can follow.

PHHS Block Grant funds are supporting a valuable program to save babies' lives in Washington County. They are also advancing public health nationwide by using an exemplary approach for providing special infant medical care.

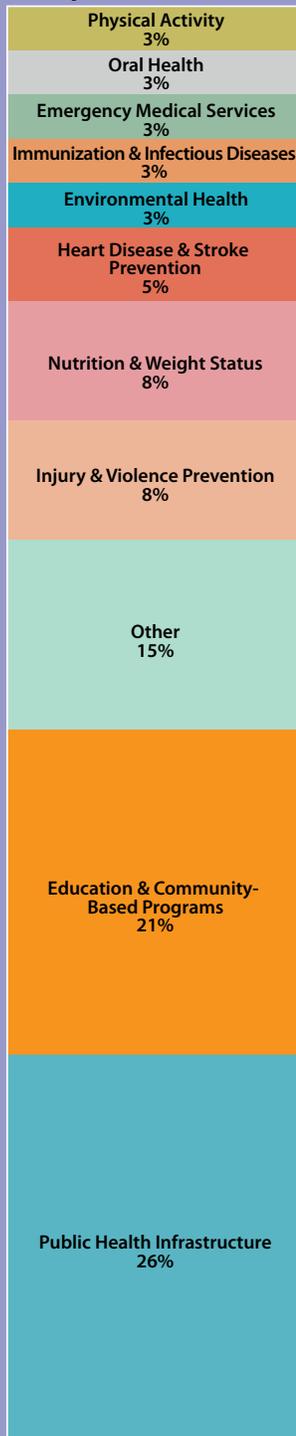
PHHS Block Grant funding helped support Maine's Bridging Program, which provides healthcare services to babies in Washington County.



Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
Office for State, Tribal, Local and Territorial Support

Preventive Health and Health Services Block Grant

2015 Top-Funded Health Areas



Excludes all non-discretionary funding: administrative costs (up to 10%), direct assistance, and funds set aside for sexual violence (rape prevention).

What is the PHHS Block Grant?

The Preventive Health and Health Services (PHHS) Block Grant provides flexible federal funding to 61 states, tribes, and US territories. These grantees use the funding to meet vital public health needs within their jurisdictions that align with national priorities—the Healthy People (HP) 2020 objectives.

Block Grant Investment Across the Nation

In fiscal year 2015, the 61 grantees received about \$126 million from the PHHS Block Grant to support critical programs and services. Most funds (85%) supported HP 2020 objectives in 10 key areas: 1) Public Health Infrastructure, 2) Education and Community-Based Programs, 3) Injury and Violence Prevention, 4) Nutrition and Weight Status, 5) Heart Disease and Stroke Prevention, 6) Environmental Health, 7) Immunization and Infectious Diseases, 8) Emergency Medical Services, 9) Oral Health, and 10) Physical Activity.

Public Health Infrastructure was the most funded area (26% of total funding); 43 grantees directed funds toward public health systems assessment, health improvement planning, accreditation, quality improvement, laboratory services, and other infrastructure activities. Education and Community-Based Programs was the second-most funded area (21% of total funding); 29 grantees directed funds toward community-based primary prevention services, worksite health promotion programs, and culturally appropriate community health programs.

Grantees also directed funds toward supporting local organizations working to improve community health (27% of total funding) and reduce health disparities (23% of total funding).