### Toward A National Strategy on Infant Mortality

#### Michael C. Lu, MD, MPH

Associate Administrator Maternal and Child Health Bureau Health Resources and Services Administration

Secretary's Advisory Committee on Infant Mortality Bethesda, MD

July 10, 2012





# Here in the U.S. we've seen our infant mortality rates steadily decline. This is thanks to cooperation between federal and local

governments, community and faith organizations and the private sector. But today we still lose far too many children in the first years of their lives. They're gone before they learn to walk or talk, before they throw a ball or give their first smile.





# The United States government has committed to protecting the health of our children with targeted interventions serving the

populations who need them most. We've focused on reducing the number of preterm births. And we've set a national goal, very similar to the kinds of goals you're setting here, to bring the percentage of all preterm births down to 11.4% by 2020.





#### To reach that goal we've launched a nationwide public-private partnership to raise awareness about the importance of bringing pregnancies to full term. We've taken a family-oriented approach that educates women and their doctors on the dangers of premature birth. And we're funding innovative strategies, like maternity medical homes, where pregnant mothers receive coordinated care from psychological support to education on how to care for infants. We have learned that seemingly simple interventions can help reduce preterm births among women at the greatest risk for poor pregnancy outcomes.





#### And where infant mortality has taken the highest toll in the US, we're also partnering with state officials to create strategies and interventions to begin bringing these rates down. Our plan is to find out what works and scale up the best interventions to the national level.





And today I'm pleased to announce my department will be collaborating in the next year to create our nation's first ever national strategy to address infant mortality.





## Reminders

• Check your agenda at the door





## Reminders

• Listen and learn





### Reminders

Remember what infant mortality means





## **Aspirational Goal**

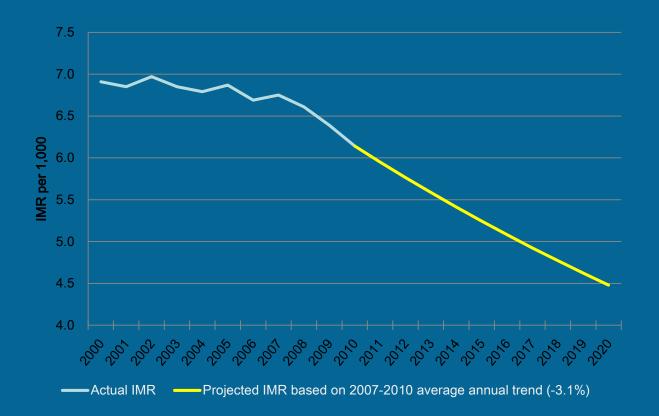
#### • IMR

- 5.5 infant deaths per 1000 live births by 2015
- 4.5 infant deaths per 1000 live births by 2020





## **Aspirational Goal**







# Improve women's health before pregnancy





## **Preconception Health & Healthcare**

- CDC/ATSDR Preconception Care Work Group & Select Panel on Preconception Care
- Office of Minority Health Preconception Peer Educators
- Regions IV & VI Infant Mortality COIN
- Affordable Care Act



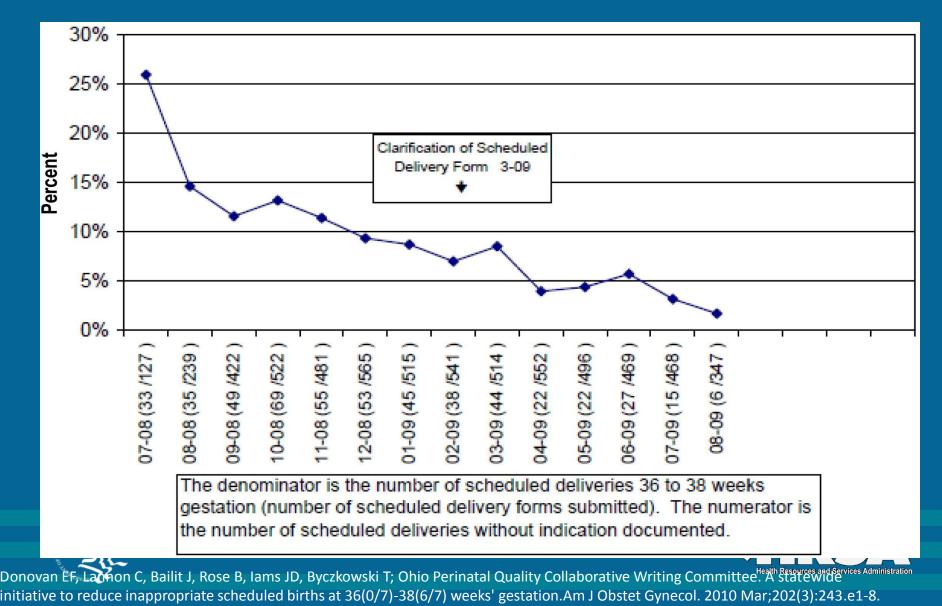


## **Promote Quality & Safety**





#### **Ohio Perinatal Quality Collaborative**



## Invest in Prevention & Promotion





### **Prevention & Promotion**

- Smoking cessation
- Safe sleep





# Strengthen Systems Integration





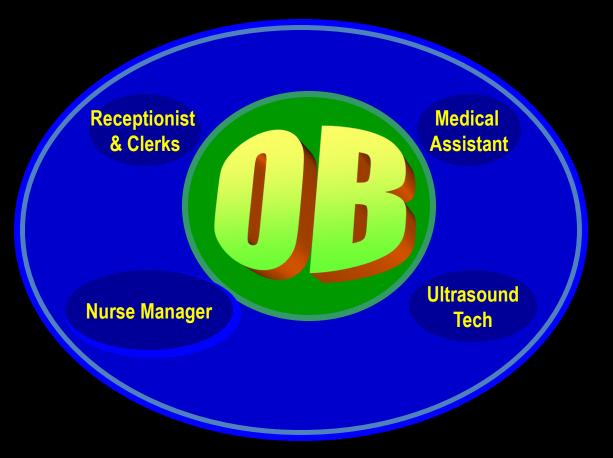
## **Strengthen Systems Integration**

- Vertical integration
  - Appropriate levels of care
- Horizontal integration
  - Service coordination & systems navigation
- Longitudinal integration
  - Care continuum across the life course



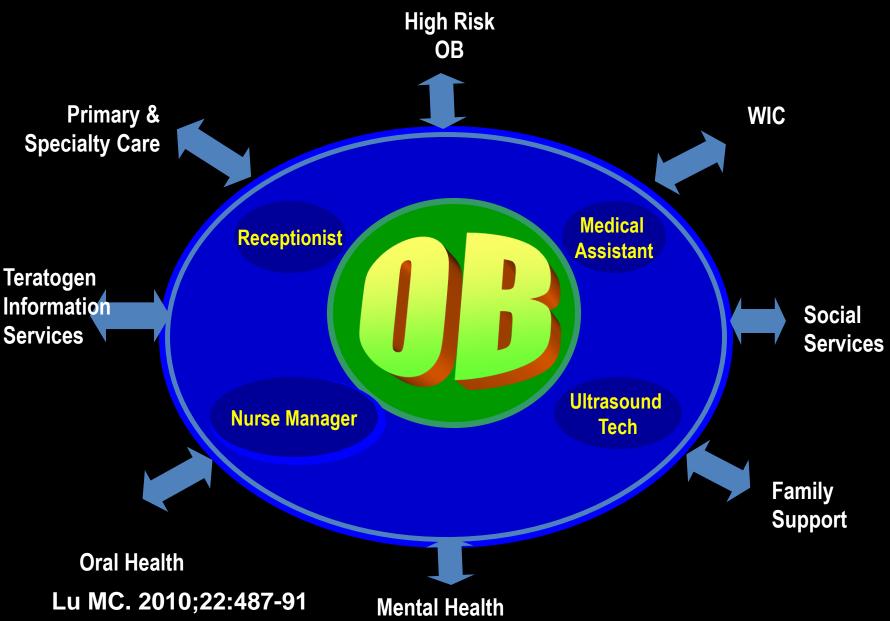


#### **Prenatal Care 1.0**

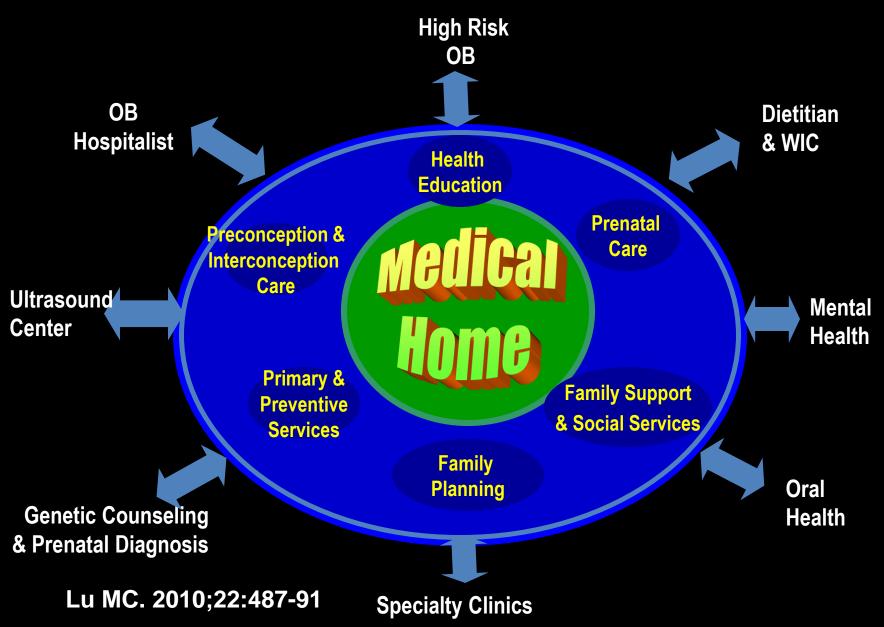


Lu MC. Healthcare reform and women's health: A life-course perspective. Curr Opin Obstet Gynecol 2010;22:487-91

#### **Prenatal Care 2.0**



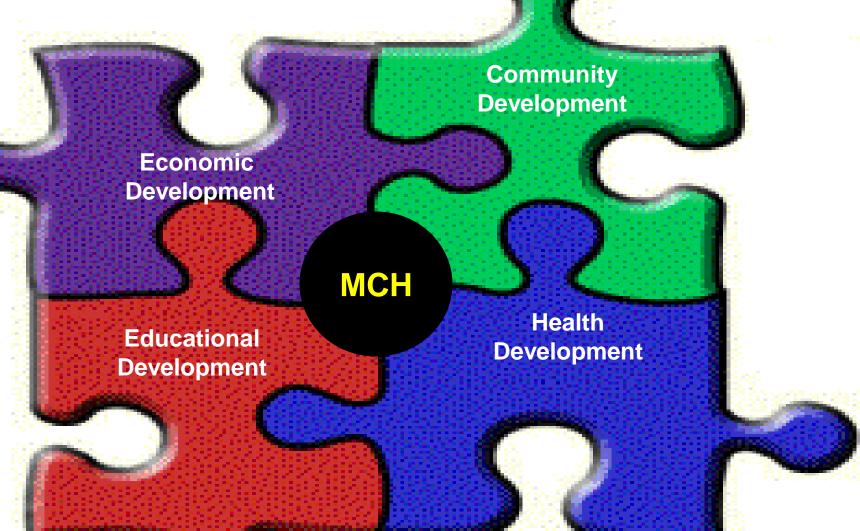
#### **Prenatal Care 3.0**



# Mobilize Community Transformation







## E Pluribus Unum





# Support Measurement & Research





#### We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness.

Declaration of Independence





