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OCHN Hosts 3rd Annual Community Baby Shower

OAKLAND COUNTY, MI (June 13, 2025) – Oakland Community Health Network (OCHN) hosted its 3rd annual Community Baby Shower on Wednesday, June 4th, 2025. Pregnant women, mothers, and families gathered at Welcome Missionary Baptist Church in Pontiac for the event and were provided important information on services related to prenatal, pregnancy, and postpartum care in its relation to behavioral health and substance use disorders.

OCHN hosts the annual event to educate the community about early prenatal care. According to the [Michigan Fatality Review & Prevention \(MFRP\)](#), in 2021, 558.8 infants died for every 100,000 live births in the United States, a greater rate than any other age group. With education focused on early prenatal care, healthier births can be achieved, resulting in better long-term health for both the mother and baby.

Through grant funding provided by the Southeast Michigan Perinatal Quality Improvement Coalition (SEMPQIC), the event featured an educational presentation on harm reduction as it relates to marijuana, alcohol, nicotine, and other substances, along with safe sleep and best breastfeeding practices, presented by Joelle Puccio from the Academy of Perinatal Harm Reduction. Approximately 35 vendors from across Oakland County participated in providing over 50 pregnant women, new mothers, primary caregivers, mothers with young children, and their families with necessary information on available services. Additionally, OCHN was able to provide 50 families educational support supplies that included pack and plays, breastfeeding kits, alcohol test strips, and other necessary baby items.

"OCHN is thrilled by the overwhelming response to this event. It's a testament to the community's commitment to providing essential behavioral health resources in a safe and supportive environment," states OCHN's CEO and Executive Director, Dana Lasenby. "Empowering families with the tools they need before, during, and after pregnancy is a crucial part of OCHN's mission to 'inspire hope, empower people, and strengthen communities'."

For non-emergency Access services, call (248) 464-6363. If you or someone you know needs immediate assistance, call or text the Suicide & Crisis Lifeline at 988. For more information on Women's Specialty Services, please visit www.oaklandchn.org.



Pictured (left to right) OCHN staff members: Tiffany Devon, Marissa M., Kene O.

About OCHN

OCHN is contracted by the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services to lead a provider service network and manage care for approximately 30,000 Oakland County citizens at more than 400 service sites across the county. People who receive public behavioral health services through OCHN's provider network include those who have an intellectual or developmental disability, mental health concerns, or substance use disorder. Most of these individuals have Medicaid insurance coverage.

OCHN's goal is to ensure these individuals are aware of and have access to services and supports that will improve their health and quality of life, as well as ensure their engagement in full community participation. Its mission to "inspire hope, empower people, and strengthen communities" reflects an unyielding belief in a "Valuable System for Valued People." Programs and supports provided by OCHN's service network are available at www.oaklandchn.org.

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