

SOUTH CAROLINA OFFICE OF
RURAL HEALTH
FAMILY SOLUTIONS

COMMUNITY BASED PROGRAMS
ADDRESSING REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH
DISPARITIES & MATERNAL FETAL
OUTCOMES



OBJECTIVE

To increase awareness of the need for collaboration between healthcare providers and community-based organizations in improving outcomes

WHAT IS INFANT MORTALITY

Infant mortality is the death of an infant before his or her first birthday. The infant mortality rate is the number of infant deaths for every 1,000 live births





WHAT IS MATERNAL MORTALITY

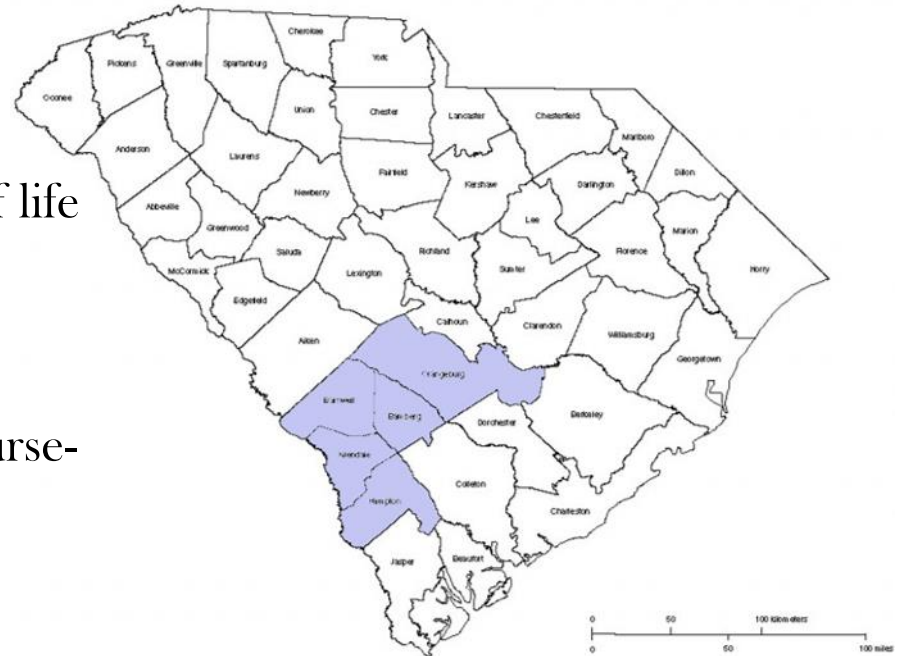
- ❖ Number of deaths related to or aggravated by pregnancy (excluding accidental or incidental causes) occurring within 42 days of the end of a pregnancy

THE FAMILY SOLUTIONS APPROACH



WHO WE ARE

- a community-based program, of the SC Office of Rural Health, with a MCH focus
- dedicated to improving the quality of life for parents and children in rural communities
- program home for Healthy Start, Nurse-Family Partnership, and a Family Resource Center
- Supportive partner of Healthy Steps in SC



OUR TEAM



- Community Health Workers
- Doulas
- Certified Childbirth Educators
- Male Involvement Coordinator
- Healthy Steps Specialist
- Nurse Practitioner
- Nurses
- Social Workers
- Reproductive Health Specialists
- Certified Lactation Consultants

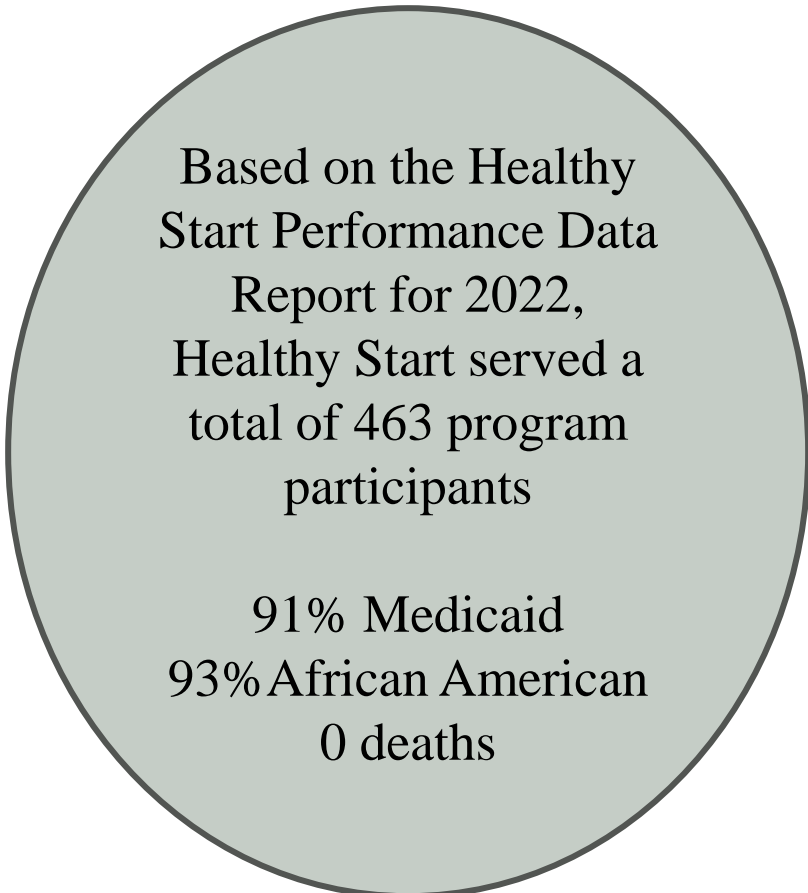
HEALTHY STEPS

- 2021
- Within in Bamberg Family Practice
- Children 0-3 years of age
- Understand and manage parenting challenges
- Feeding behavior, sleep, developing and adapting to life with a young child
- Determine whether children are reaching developmental milestones
- Connects with additional services

HOME VISITING

HEALTHY START

- 3 sites in SC
- 1997
- Criteria:
 - Pregnant or delivered a special needs or low birthweight baby
 - live within the service area



Based on the Healthy Start Performance Data Report for 2022, Healthy Start served a total of 463 program participants

91% Medicaid
93% African American
0 deaths

HOME VISITING

NURSE-FAMILY PARTNERSHIP

Based on Performance
Data for Oct1,2022-Sept
30, 2023, NFP had 767
encounters with a total of
70 program participants

1 Fetal Demise at term

- 7 sites in SC
- 2015
- Criteria:
 - pregnant with 1st viable pregnancy
 - less than 29 weeks pregnant
 - live in Orangeburg county
 - meet income requirements

HOME VISITING: Process

- Referral
- Assigned for assessment
- Assessment scheduled and completed
- Assigned to a home visitor based on findings from the assessment
- Case management for up to 18-24 months post delivery
 - In person- home visits
 - Virtual visits
 - Groups in-person with a virtual option



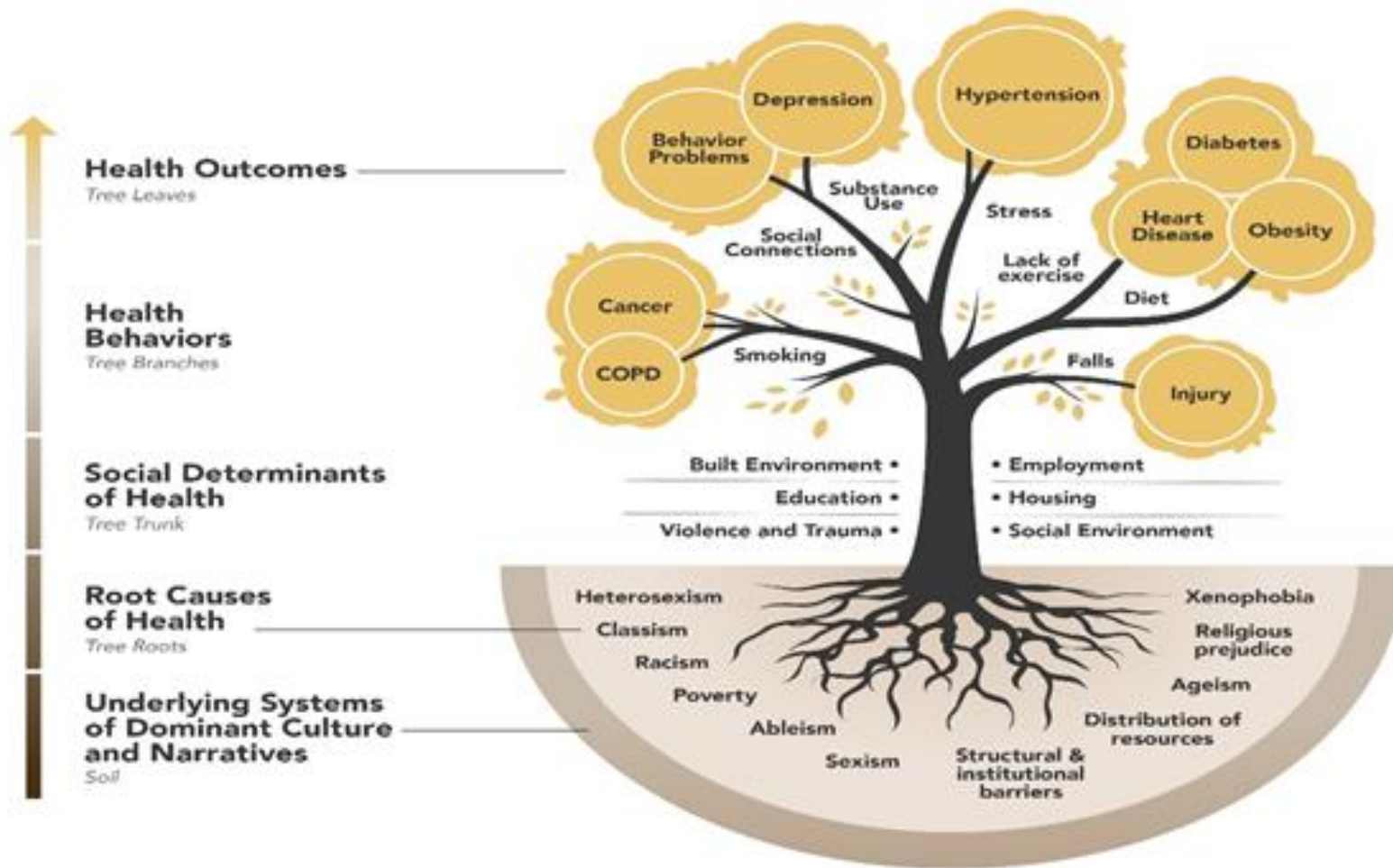
SOCIAL DETERMINANTS IN RURAL



- higher rates of unemployment
- lower educational attainment
- less access to healthcare and social services

These factors directly affect an individual's health and well-being

- higher infant and child mortality





Education is one of the strongest predictors of individual and community health.

Determinants in this category include: **high school graduation, higher education, language and literacy, and childhood development.**

Education Access and Quality

- Community Action Network
- Partnerships with school districts/institutions of higher learning
- Scholarship opportunities
- FS Graduation



SOUTH CAROLINA OFFICE OF
RURAL HEALTH

Investment. Opportunity. Health.

Social and Community Context

Not all communities have a sense of togetherness. Community cohesion can play a big part in health.

Determinants in this category include: **civic participation, discrimination, workplace conditions, and incarceration.**



- Community Events
- Education/Groups open to the community



Individuals who are economically insecure may have added difficulty in addressing their health needs.

Determinants in this category include: **income, living cost, poverty, housing, socioeconomic status, and food security.**

Economic Stability



- Financial Literacy
- Food Share

Built Environment

Neighborhoods play a big part in assessing health. Where someone lives can make a big difference. Determinants in this category include: **access to transportation, healthy foods, air and water quality, and local crime and violence.**



Family Resource Center

A flexible, family focused culturally sensitive hub of support and resource



Community Action Network

Healthcare Access and Quality

How easy is it for someone to access healthcare?
What financial barriers may stand in the way?

Determinants in this category include:
healthcare, primary care, insurance coverage, and health literacy.



- Availability vs. Accessibility
- Quality
- Health Literacy
- Provider Action Network
and Multidisciplinary Meetings



Case Study



Contact Information

Lamikka Samuel

FS Director

Lsamuel.familysolutions@scorh.net

Karie Fersner

Women's Health Nurse Practitioner

Kfersner.familysolutions@scorh.net

1031 Middleton Street Orangeburg, SC 29115

Phone: 803-531-8008

SOUTH CAROLINA OFFICE OF
RURAL HEALTH

Investment. Opportunity. Health.