# **Mohawk valley perinatal network**

**Promoting Healthy Births and Healthy Families** 

Annual Report 2012-2013

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## **About the Network**

**Mohawk Valley Perinatal Network, Inc.** is a 501(c)3, not-for-profit organization that has been serving families in Herkimer and Oneida Counties since 1996. The Network was formed through the collaborative effort of dedicated professionals to improve the perinatal health of women throughout our region. We are primarily funded by the New York State Department of Health, and work with health and human service professionals and consumers to improve the overall health of communities in the Mohawk Valley. Our mission is to improve birth outcomes, and maternal, child and family health, facilitate collaboration among providers and community organizations and advocate for change. We accomplish this by assessing community needs, educating health and human service providers, updating perinatal data, educating and referring consumers, providing Navigator services for NY State of Health, the official health plan Marketplace for New York State, and encouraging healthy behaviors and increased use of health insurance programs. We are dedicated to improving birth outcomes for all women and their families, and particularly women facing difficult challenges.

The Network is primarily funded by the New York State Department of Health, Division of Family Health and Office of Health Insurance Programs. Our Board of Directors is representative of human service providers, health services providers, educational institutions, community organizations, business professionals and consumers from Oneida and Herkimer Counties. The Consortium is reflective of collaborative partners, providers and consumers from Oneida, Herkimer and Madison Counties.

**Promoting healthy births and healthy families** 

## **Board of Directors**

Susan Calandra Madison Oneida BOCES

Colleen Cavallo Family Nurturing Center of Kids Oneida

Linda Culyer Utica College

Victor Fariello

Janet Fortnam

Adam Hutchinson Herkimer County Health Net

Mary Kline Herkimer BOCES

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Kathleen Seiselmyer

Lesa Steele Faxton-St. Luke's Healthcare

Jason Stefanski–Chair Madison Oneida BOCES

Carole Torok-Huxtable - Secretary

Carolyn Trimbach

## Staff

Diana Y. Haldenwang Executive Director

Theresa Gorgas Director of Finance and Administration

April Owens Perinatal Program Coordinator

Lynne Gates Health Insurance Programs Coordinator Kayleigh Riesel Perinatal Program Associate

Cheryl Perkins Health Benefits Specialist

Gerda Mortelette Small Business Specialist

Filomena Nistico Health Benefits Navigator

Patricia Hamer Program Support Specialist

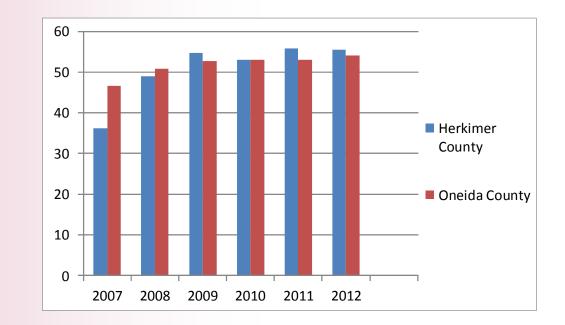
Through collaboration with the Oneida County Health Department, Herkimer County Public Health and the Central New York Regional Perinatal Center, Mohawk Valley Perinatal Network is able to present the following perinatal health data. This data is taken from standard county level reports and de-identified data sets from the State Perinatal Data System. Please note that for Oneida County, data reflect both Oneida County residents and births that occurred in Oneida County. As there are no delivering hospitals in Herkimer County, Herkimer County data is likely to include only Herkimer County residents.

Mohawk Valley Perinatal Network encourages those providers who desire up-to-date perinatal statistical information for the areas they serve to contact our organization so that we may work with local departments of health, regional perinatal centers and NYS Department of Health to gather data on your behalf.

All data are reported as a percent of live births.

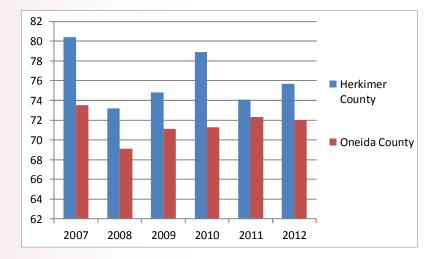
**Births Covered** 

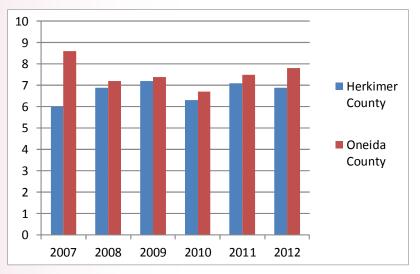
by Medicaid



There were 635 live births in Herkimer County and 3,089 live births in Oneida County in 2012.

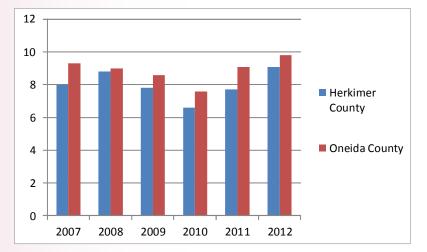
#### First Trimester Prenatal Care



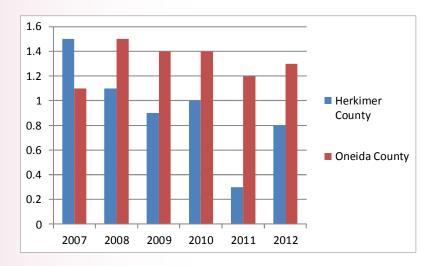


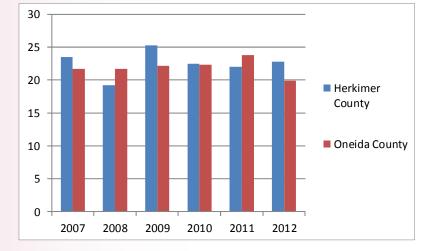
#### **Low Birth Weight**

**Preterm Birth** 



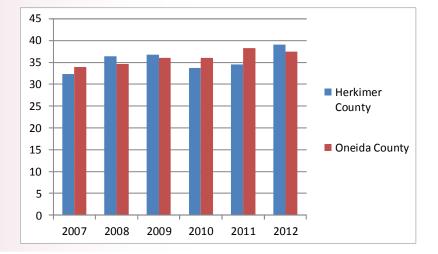
#### Mother Under Age 17 at Birth



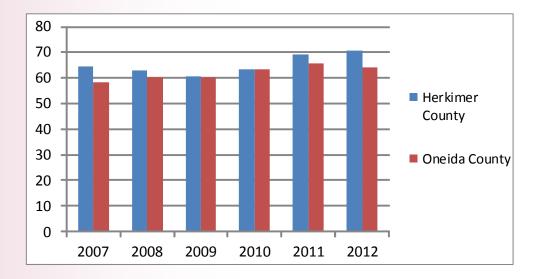


#### **Induction of Labor**

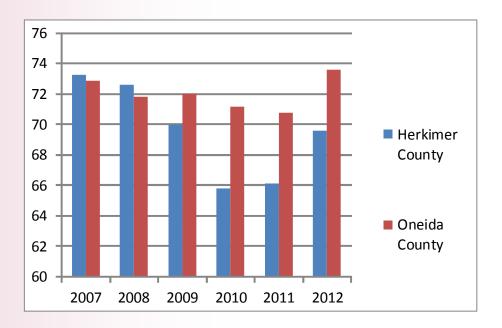
#### **Total Cesarean Births**



Breastfeeding at Hospital Discharge







## **Perinatal Service Information**

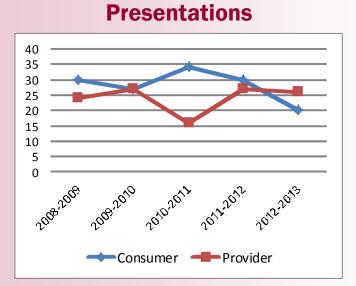
Mohawk Valley Perinatal Network Perinatal Program staff provide consumer and provider education, perinatal information and service referral and community collaboration and networking opportunities to improve perinatal health in our community.

The Perinatal Network reached 131 consumers through 20 presentations between July 2012 and June 2013. Consumer education topics included: safe sleep, oral health, contraceptive choices, lead poisoning prevention, flu vaccination, breastfeeding, Community Health Advocate Program, Shaken Baby Syndrome, "Healthy Babies are Worth the Wait". Presentation settings included: Community Baby Showers, Boot Camp for New Dads, childbirth classes, and special presentations for partnering agencies.

The Perinatal Network reached 378 health and human service providers through 26 presentations between July 2012 and June 2013. Provider education topics included: delayed pregnancy and fertility, perinatal HIV transmission, safe sleep, oral health, Cavity Free Kids curriculum, Shaken Baby Syndrome, obesity in pregnancy and early childhood. Presentation settings included: Consortium meetings, frontline worker presentations, Nursing Student Conference.

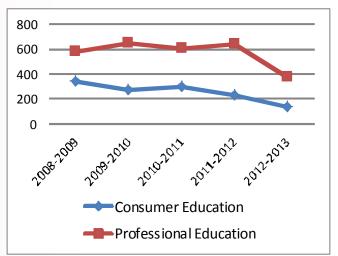
The Perinatal Network partnered with Faxton-St.Luke's OB Care Center again this year, and with funding from United Way of the Valley and Greater Utica, offered the Patient Navigation program. A nurse employed by the OB Care Center and the Perinatal Network Patient Navigator met with high risk patients immediately before or after their prenatal and postpartum care appointments, connecting women to resources, thereby reducing stress and preterm birth. The Patient Navigation program served approximately 30 high risk women this year.

The Perinatal Network launched the Healthy Babies Initiative with our partners and funding from the Health Foundation for Western and Central New York in the fall of 2012. The vision of the Initiative is to improve the delivery of health care services and supports to reduce health disparities, assure all women and parenting families can access and receive the highest intensity and quality services needed without duplication, thereby reducing costs across the lifespan.



Number of Educational

### Individuals attending Educational Presentations



## Outreach

Mohawk Valley Perinatal Network reached approximately 6,600 people through 14 community outreach events between July 2012 and June 2013. The total number reached is significantly larger than in previous years due to attendance at various large, multi-day events. Notable events included: Utica WIC Family Fun Day, CNY Farm Show, Oneida Indian Nation Employee Health Event, Herkimer WIC Family Fun Day, VVS Community Day, Heart Run Expo, Utica Build a Bike Health Expo.

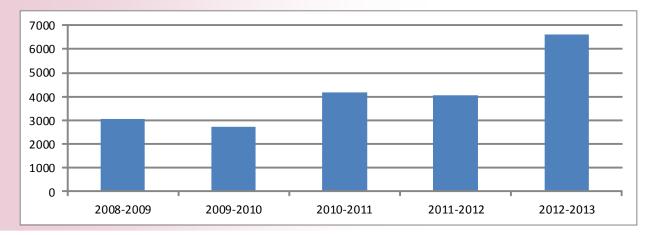
In November 2011 the Perinatal Network was awarded a Community Health Advocates grant through Community Service Society of NY. This program expanded our capacity to help individuals find health insurance and affordable healthcare and prescriptions, and better navigate the healthcare system. In an effort to promote the program, Perinatal Network staff provided 56 presentations to 809 health and human service providers and consumers between July 2012 and June 2013.

Perinatal Network staff provided local businesses, pharmacies, doctors, clinics and community partners with flyers, posters, and promotional items to promote Child Health Plus, Family Health Plus, Medicaid, Medicaid prenatal services, and Community Health Advocates, and mailed information on health insurance programs to local churches and school nurses.

The Perinatal Network publishes two newsletters—*Healthy Beginnings,* designed for expectant families and parents, and *Promoting Healthy Beginnings,* designed as a resource for providers. Over 600 copies of each newsletter are disseminated quarterly by electronic and traditional mail.

The Perinatal Network maintains two Facebook pages, one for the organization (facebook.com/newfamily.org) and one targeted to fathers (facebook.com/bootcampfornewdads). Both pages are updated at least weekly with health and safety information, upcoming events and local services information.

The Perinatal Network strives to provide quality services to individuals with limited English proficiency by providing interpreters to anyone requiring this service for all of our programs. In addition, Perinatal Network staff meet with representatives of Multicultural Association of Medical Interpreters and Mohawk Valley Resource Center for Refugees each year to discuss emerging needs in the community.



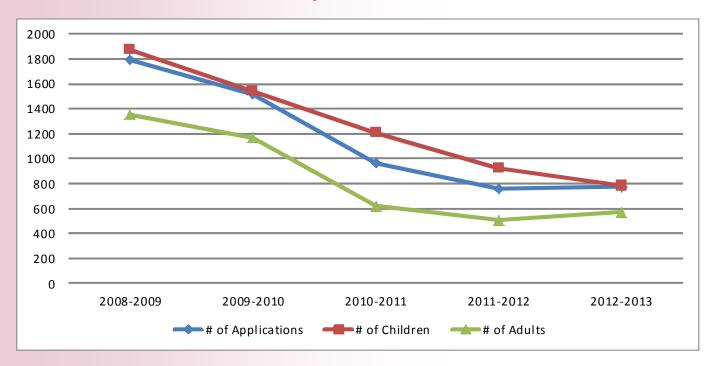
## **Individuals served at Community Outreach Events**

# Facilitated Enrollment and Community Health Advocates

Over the past year, Mohawk Valley Perinatal Network's Facilitated Enrollment project helped families learn about health insurance choices for children and adults, including single adults with no children. Enrollers were available at various sites throughout Oneida, Herkimer and Madison Counties to assist people in completing the application, collecting necessary documentation, and forwarding the application to the appropriate program for processing. Traveling and in-office enrollers submitted 778 applications between July 2012 and June 2013, which serviced 781 children and 575 adults.

The Perinatal Network collaborates with Oneida, Herkimer and Madison County Department of Social Services, Excellus Blue Cross Blue Shield, Fidelis, United Healthcare, CDPHP, and Mohawk Valley Community Action Agency to complete and process applications. We offered appointments in Rome, Ilion, Utica, Oneida, Canastota, Morrisville, Waterville, Herkimer, Barneveld, Boonville, Camden, and West Winfield. In October 2013 we transitioned to the Navigator program for the New York State health plan Marketplace, NY State of Health. We are now offering appointments in Oneida and Madison Counties.

The Community Health Advocates program, funded by New York State Department of Health and administered by Community Service Society of NY, allowed Perinatal Network staff to help individuals find, keep and utilize health insurance and healthcare. We helped individuals identify health insurance options, affordable healthcare and prescriptions, reduce medical bills, get procedures covered, and understand healthcare reform. Between July 2012 and June 2013 Perinatal Network staff opened 477 "cases" in the Community Health Advocates program. Funding for this program ended in August 2013, and Community Health Advocate staff, and some program activities, were incorporated into the Navigator program.



## **Annual Productivity for Facilitated Enrollment**

**Financials** 

