

# Wayne County is Working to Reduce Infant Mortality

## We Care

The Wayne County Department of Public Health is trying to improve the health and well being of mothers and infants and to reduce the tragedy of infant death. We would like your help.

Public Health is taking part in an important State of Michigan study, the Fetal/ Infant Mortality Review (FIMR). Through interviews with mothers who have recently experienced the loss of an infant, we hope to better understand aspects of pregnancy and infant health that may be related to infant mortality.

## Infant Loss

Infant death affects about 1,000 families in Michigan each year. The pain of infant loss takes a toll on parents, other family members and friends.



Often, the causes of infant deaths are unknown and occur when parents and doctors have done all the "right" things.

### The question is "why"?

- What causes infant death?
- What leads to very low birth weight or illness in babies?
- Can anything be done to make a difference in the future?

The FIMR seeks answers to these questions.

## Your Help Is Needed

Information from mother's interviews will be used to understand mother's and infant's needs and to develop programs to meet those needs.



### Questions to be asked:

- Are there enough medical care services and providers for mothers and babies?
- How can medical care be improved?
- What most affects a pregnant woman and/or her baby's health?
- Are there barriers in your community that prevent women and infants from receiving appropriate care?

**Your participation will help improve health care and other community services in Wayne County.**

### Your participation Is Important

In a few days, you will be receiving a phone call or a visit from a Wayne County Department of Public Health nurse asking you if you would be willing to spend about a half hour of your time talking with her either in the privacy of your home or in Health Department offices, whichever you prefer.

## Sharing Voluntarily

Any information you provide during the interview will be used only for the purposes of this study and to ensure the health and well being of you and your family. Your participation is voluntary.

The Wayne County Department of Public Health hopes that you will choose to take part in the Fetal/ Infant Mortality Review because your participation will help improve health services for all women and infants in the county.

Michigan counties and groups participating in FIMR include:

**Jackson  
Branch  
Ingham  
Lapeer  
Genesee  
Detroit-City  
Out-Wayne  
Macomb  
Calhoun  
St. Joseph  
Berrien  
Intertribal Counsel  
Kent  
Washtenaw  
Kalamazoo  
Saginaw  
Oakland**



**About 900 women in these seventeen areas will experience the death of an infant this year.**

**Wayne County  
Fetal/Infant Mortality Review  
Administrative Team**

**Health Administration  
Building  
33030 Van Born Road  
Wayne, MI 48184**

**734-727-7000**

**Fetal / Infant  
Mortality  
Review**

**Working to  
Reduce  
Infant Mortality**



**Robert A. Ficano  
County Executive**



**Loretta V. Davis, MSA  
Public Health Officer**

[www.waynecounty.com](http://www.waynecounty.com)