

Great Baby Beginnings



November, 2018

Message from CEO LuAnne Brown, RN



Welcome to Fall at BPPN –as always we've been busy at the agency and here are some highlights:

Thank you to the family of James Brown for a wonderful furniture donation which helped furnish homes for 2 of our clients. And a special thank you to our wonderful movers (who beat the heat when the temperature was 94 degrees the day they moved!) Joe Aquino, Mark Kotas and Dejean Cooper.

We also received a wonderful grant from the Many Faces of Mercy Circle of Giving which will help us purchase pack and plays and other baby items and from the Rotary Club of the Buffalo Niagara Medical Campus.

The Responsible Fatherhood Initiative received a wonderful grant from the First Niagara Foundation to continue to grow the program.



Continuing EDUCATION

Our continuing educational session that we co-host with March of Dimes was held on September 14th and featured Michele Ambor NP from Oishei Hospital/Kaleida Health who gave an overview of current family planning methods, success rates, etc. Thanks Michele!

Continuing our safety Focus, the staff participated in an Active Shooter drill facilitated by Tom Smalley from Catholic Health. Some helpful suggestions were offered by Tom and certainly helped prepare the staff in the eventuality of an attack.



GO Buffalo Mom



BPPN has recently agreed to partner with the United Way, Kaleida Health and Catholic Health on the Go Buffalo Mom project. BPPN will employ 2 Transportation Navigators with one each based at the Oishei and Sisters Hospital prenatal clinic. The Navigator will work with pregnant women to assess their needs and build an individualized trip plan to get them to medical appointments, WIC and other key services that factor into having a healthy baby.

On August 21st BPPN hosted 1 of 7 state wide listening sessions on Maternal Mortality coordinated by the NYS Department of Health at Conventus. Over 40 African American women participated in the 3 hour session which covered topics from prenatal care to birth and the postpartum period. Some valuable insights were shared and recorded at the session. One of our clients Grace Dunn was invited to present to the Maternal Mortality Task Force in Albany on September 25th and share her story.



Thanks to all who attended Great Baby Beginnings on July 18th at Hotel Henry-we raised a record \$40,000 this year! Honorees included Senator Tim Kennedy, Elaine Clutterbuck, Nurse Midwife from Catholic Health and Allentown Pediatrics.

On September 7th Healthy Families held their annual graduation at Classics 5 for moms who have participated in the program. Several of them shared their stories and thanked BPPN and especially their Support Worker.



We continue our partnership with Junior League as their impact agency and I spoke to the membership on September 18th about our mission for the agency. They will be planning some activities for our clients and we are truly excited to be involved!



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Home Visiting Program Annual Fall Feast



Maternal Mortality

Listening session sponsored with DOH on Oct.21





Erie County Health Department's Immunization Action Plan wants you to know.....

December 2-8 is National Influenza Vaccination Week

It is influenza (flu) season once again and everyone should have received or have a plan to receive their yearly vaccination against influenza. Flu is unpredictable and how severe it is can vary widely from one season to the next. Last season we had a severe strain of the flu, coupled with low vaccination uptake, resulting in increased illness and death rates.

Complications of flu can include bacterial pneumonia, ear infections, sinus infections, dehydration, and worsening of chronic medical conditions, such as congestive heart failure, asthma, or diabetes, and can potentially be fatal.

Some populations are more susceptible to developing these complications, including adults 65 years and older, persons with chronic health conditions, **pregnant women**, and **young children**. Children less than 6 months of age are too young to be vaccinated. For those at high risk, flu is likely to lead to serious complications or even death. Let us protect these individuals, who may be your relative, friend or loved one by being vaccinated ourselves.

During the 2017-2018 flu season, CDC estimates flu caused:

49 million illnesses (more than the populations of Texas & Florida combined)

960,000 hospitalizations (more than the number of staffed hospital beds in the U.S.)

79,000 deaths (more than the average number of people who attend the Super Bowl)

Flu vaccination has been shown in several studies to reduce severity of illness in people who get vaccinated, but still get sick!

Please utilize the CDC's website for more information -

<http://www.cdc.gov/flu/about/qa/misconceptions.htm>

<http://www.cdc.gov/flu/about/disease/index.htm>

Call 858-2373 for questions you may have.



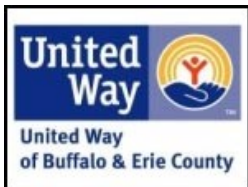


625 Delaware Ave, Suite 410
Buffalo, NY 14202
Phone: 716-884-6711
Fax: 716-884-0513

WWW.BPPN.ORG



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Buffalo Prenatal-Perinatal Network, Inc. is a not-for-profit organization that has been in operation for 30 years. The overall mission of the organization is to coordinate and collaborate with key stakeholders in Erie County/City of Buffalo, to increase access to and utilization of preconception, prenatal, perinatal and postpartum health care services in the community. The agency and its programs work within the community to help identify problems of adequacy, acceptability and accessibility in the delivery of these services, especially to those who are in high-need; to seek support for implementation of programs/services that help attain the agency mission; promote coordination between service providers who serve similar consumers/clients; and to provide informational and educational activities for providers and consumers, to help enable improved birth outcomes for the targeted population.

The programs operated by Buffalo Prenatal focus on improving maternal and infant health outcomes for high need women and their families, and to help reduce racial and ethnic disparities in those outcomes. Programs operated by Buffalo Prenatal include a New York State Department of Health Maternal Infant Community Health Collaborative (MICHIC), a Healthy Families New York Program (also known as the Buffalo Home Visiting Program) and a Fatherhood Program.

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"Fathers occupy a critical role in child development. Father absence hinders development from early infancy throughout childhood and into adulthood." But these fathers are growing in their knowledge of fatherhood through the Nurturing Fathers program at Saints Home Church. Big thanks to our program facilitators Mike and Terry!



Our Client Ms. Grace Dunn spoke at the Maternal Mortality Task Force in Albany.



We can make a Difference



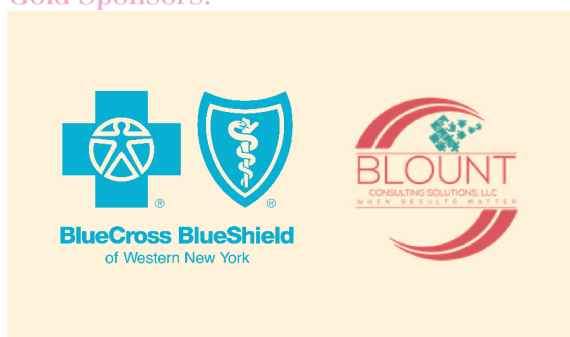


Buffalo Prenatal-Perinatal Network, Inc.
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 A Special Thank You To Our Event Sponsors!

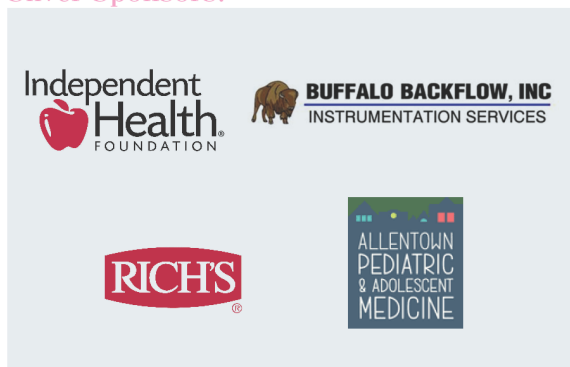
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