

PROTECT FUNDING FOR CRITICAL SERVICES FOR FLORIDA'S AT-RISK MOTHERS AND BABIES

\$19M = 29%

Healthy Start faces a **\$19 million cut** in the Senate's budget as funding from AHCA and DOH. This **represents 29%** of Healthy Start's overall budget.

Healthy Start services for women and infants are available in all 67 Florida counties.

We ask for your support to protect this funding. If passed, this cut would eliminate critical home visit and face-to-face services for **thousands** of high-risk pregnant women and infants statewide, leaving them in jeopardy.

Healthy Start's new system of care reduces duplication. The new Coordinated Intake and Referral program coordinates services between all evidence based home visiting programs in the community and the health plans. Healthy Start's home visiting and face to face services have been redesigned, and the data system updated to allow health plans access to see the services their enrollees receive from Healthy Start. Additionally, regular case management conference calls will coordinate care for the highest risk clients.

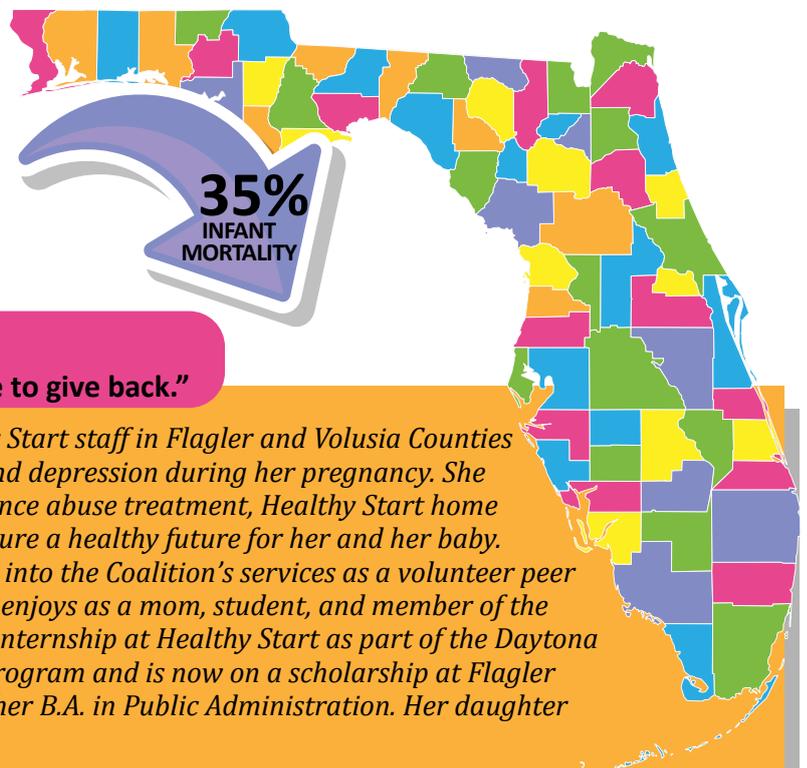
It is equally important to remove both the budget cut and the proviso language that potentially eliminate services in many areas of the state.

Healthy Start is a cost-effective solution to help ensure at-risk babies have the best chance at a healthy start in life. Healthy Start provides education and support for families including infant care and safe sleep, pregnancy care and preparing for baby's arrival, screening and referrals for perinatal depression, substance abuse, child development, and much more.

The **IMPACT** of **HEALTHY START**

Please continue to support the funding of Healthy Start to maintain critical services for high-risk pregnant women and infants that support healthy babies in Florida.

- Florida has seen a **35% decrease in infant mortality rate since 1991** due in part to the resources and services provided by Healthy Start.
- Last year, Healthy Start provided **support for nearly 80,000 at-risk pregnant women** and more than **56,000 at-risk infants** and helped connect them with community resources.



SUCCESS STORY:

"It's amazing to have come full circle and be able to give back."



Helena was supported by Healthy Start staff in Flagler and Volusia Counties as she faced issues of addiction and depression during her pregnancy. She participated in residential substance abuse treatment, Healthy Start home visiting, and aftercare to help ensure a healthy future for her and her baby. She now helps new moms coming into the Coalition's services as a volunteer peer and shares the successes she now enjoys as a mom, student, and member of the workforce. Helena completed an internship at Healthy Start as part of the Daytona State College's Human Services Program and is now on a scholarship at Flagler College, where she is completing her B.A. in Public Administration. Her daughter Isabelle is now 4 years old.

2/15/18



Florida Association of
Healthy Start
COALITIONS, INC.

For more information and examples of Healthy Start's **IMPACT** on families in your community, please contact:
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