



GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF  
COMMUNITY HEALTH

# **NOTICE OF DIRECT AWARD**

**MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH PROGRAM**

**PREMATURITY AND EARLY SCHOOL PERFORMANCE  
PREGNANCY RISK ASSESSMENT MONITORING SYSTEM  
(PRAMS)**

**POSTING DATE: MONDAY, JUNE 27, 2011  
INQUIRY CLOSING DATE: 2:00 PM, EST., FRIDAY, JULY 1, 2011**

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# **DIRECT AWARD JUSTIFICATION**

## **PREMATURITY AND EARLY SCHOOL PERFORMANCE (PRAMS)**

### **AGENCY BACKGROUND**

The Georgia Department of Community Health (DCH) was created in 1999 by Senate Bill 241 to serve as the lead agency for health care planning and purchasing issues in Georgia. DCH is the single state agency for Medicaid and insures over two million people in the State of Georgia, maximizing the State's health care purchasing power, coordinating health planning for State agencies and proposing cost-effective solutions for reducing the number of uninsured.

Effective July 1, 2009, the Georgia Department of Community Health (DCH) officially transferred services for the Office of Regulatory Services (ORS), Division Public Health (PH) and Emergency Preparedness from the Department of Human Resources (DHR). These services will function as three separate program divisions within DCH. The transition is in response to Senate Bill 433, which instructs DHR to transfer all matters relating to the licensure and regulation of hospitals and health related institutions.

Within DCH, the Division of Public Health (PH), Maternal and Child Health (MCH) Program is responsible for prevention, community ownership, ethical decisions and actions and commitment to a scientific process. Maternal and Child Health operates within a system that has three interrelated components including the foundation, or infrastructure, the means of delivery or services and the children and families interacting with the system to improve their health.

### **PROGRAM BACKGROUND**

The Maternal and Child Health Program addresses the issues through the MCH system that provides the infrastructure and services for the entire population as well as enabling services to assist individuals and families in meeting their needs or direct health care. The priorities of Maternal and Child Health provide a framework to guide planning and policy development that will result in strategies which are translated into specific program activities. The activities include but are not limited to the following:

- Assure early access to prenatal and postpartum care for pregnant women.
- Promote healthy nutritional behaviors and physical activity among the MCH populations.
- Reduce unintentional and intentional injury among MCH populations.
- Improve oral health among MCH populations.
- Promote preconception health.
- Promote healthy behaviors and reduce risk-taking behaviors among Adolescents.
- Reduce health disparities among MCH populations.
- Assure a comprehensive system of age appropriate screening, referral, and follow-up from birth through age 21.
- Assure an adequate MCH workforce.
- Engage in partnerships that support comprehensive systems to improve the health of MCH populations.

### **PROGRAM OVERVIEW**

As a part of its mission for prevention, community ownership, ethical decisions and actions and commitment to a scientific process, MCH is committed to promoting the physical, mental, spiritual and social well-being of children and families through partnerships with communities.

The Prematurity and Early School Performance research project is a retrospective review of birth records, Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System (PRAMS) Data for Georgia, and educational achievement data.

The Maternal and Child Health Program (MCHP) is seeking to match pregnancy and birth data with the Criterion-Referenced Competency Tests (CRCT) and student

	<p>identification data from 2004. This dataset will be used to create baseline information for determining the importance of maternal and infant health characteristics to the school outcomes of the child.</p>
<p><b>AWARD JUSTIFICATION</b></p>	<p>The Georgia Department of Community Health intends to award Emory University School of Medicine \$131,753 to design and conduct retrospective cohort study of all children born between the years of 2004-2009 in Georgia.</p> <p>This research will only involve publicly available secondary datasets such as birth certificates and standardized CRCT and Kindergarten test scores. All information collected will be safeguarded in a manner that will prevent identification of individual cases.</p> <p>DCH presents this funding as a direct award in that Emory University School of Medicine meets the federal grant requirements.</p>
<p><b>AWARD(S)</b></p>	<p><b>TOTAL DIRECT AWARD FUNDS AVAILABLE: \$131,753</b></p>
<p><b><u>TO SUBMIT INQUIRIES TO THIS DIRECT AWARD NOTIFICATION</u></b></p> <p><b>Arnita E. Watson, Grant Manager at <a href="mailto:awatson@dch.ga.gov">awatson@dch.ga.gov</a> no later than 2:00 PM on Wednesday, June 29, 2011.</b></p>	