



Community Grant Outcome Report

Name: Safe Mom Safe Baby: A Collaborative Model of Care for Pregnant Women Experiencing Intimate Partner Violence

Grantee: Aurora Sinai Medical Center, Aurora Health Care

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Academic Partner: Jacquelyn Tillett, CNM, ND, Clinical Associate Professor & Tina Mason, MD, MPH, Associate Professor (CHS), Department of Obstetrics & Gynecology, UW SMPH

Program: Implementation

Grant Duration: 04/01/2005 to 03/31/2008 (36 months)

Expenditures: \$443,738 of \$448,529 (99% expended)

Use of Funds: Implementation of best practice intervention

► **Description:** The project partners developed and implemented the Safe Mom, Safe Baby (SMSB) project, an intensive home and provider (clinic and hospital) based program for services to pregnant or post-partum women at risk for intimate partner violence. SMSB provides assessment and nurse case management services through a violence advocate team. SMSB aims to improve perinatal health and safety outcomes for pregnant women and new mothers at risk for partner violence through abuse responsive services, education, prenatal care, and advocacy.

► **Results:** SMSB provided domestic abuse assessment and direct services to 257 high-risk pregnant and post-partum women accessing the Aurora Health Care Perinatal services throughout Milwaukee County. The project staff provided outreach and training to over 1,000 health and social service providers, resulting in increased screening rates for intimate partner violence overall, and especially in the first trimester of a woman's pregnancy. Patient disclosure rates for abuse tripled from 1 in 25 (4%) in 2005 to 1 in 8 (13%) in 2007. The screening tool has now been incorporated as a standard practice for the Aurora Women's Health Center and the Aurora Midwifery and Wellness Center.

Using a Domestic Violence Survivor Assessment tool, the project was able to demonstrate positive changes in the client's readiness for and attitude towards more protective behaviors. These behaviors include advocacy or legal services, working with law

enforcement, moving into a different home or job, learning more about abuse, and accessing support services for themselves and their children. Birth outcome data, while incomplete, indicated that SMSB client outcomes were similar to those in the general Aurora patient population.

SMSB staff attributes their success to the academic partner and medical staff working directly with the program at Aurora.

► **Met Objectives:** Project completed

► **Baseline Progress on State Health Plan Objectives:** Not measured

► **Academic Partner Role:** Offered clinical expertise and advocacy for the services institutionally and within the community

► **Matched Dollars (cash or in-kind):** \$155,836

► **Dissemination:**

- Published article: *Journal of Perinatal & Neonatal Nursing*
- Three presentations (state/national conferences)
- Educational materials

► **Sustained:** SMSB received a renewal OAC implementation grant for \$400,944 to expand and sustain the Safe Mom, Safe Baby project through 2011. Aurora is providing in-kind assistance throughout that period as well. The overall goal is to sustain SMSB with support from Aurora and other funding sources.