

# HEALTH

Reproductive, Maternal,  
Newborn, and Child Health

U.S.



**BOLD  
THINKERS  
DRIVING  
REAL-WORLD  
IMPACT**



# Maternal Health

Sharing best practices with the most important practitioners: Mothers

Managed by Abt in collaboration with CDC, the **EMPower Breastfeeding: Enhancing Maternity Practice** project aims to increase the breastfeeding rate throughout the U.S. and to support/promote optimal breastfeeding practices, with the ultimate goal of improving the public's health.

For this project, we brought together breastfeeding and quality improvement experts to provide technical assistance to a group of recruited hospitals—convening complementary skillsets is an Abt specialty.

Our team then coordinated several hospital training activities, including an environmental scan of existing resources and a unique technical assistance plan specific to hospitals. Abt monitored and evaluated the effectiveness of the technical assistance and training strategies and provided reports on this progress.



Oversaw a  
**26.79%**  
jump in breastfed  
infants without  
pacifier use



# Neonatal/ Child Health

## Improving outcomes for children of low socioeconomic status

Abt has conducted several evaluations for the Health Resources & Services Administration (HRSA) and the Maternal Child Health Bureau (MCHB). We are currently carrying out a national evaluation of Healthy Start, which provides comprehensive, community-based perinatal health services to women, infants and families in communities with high rates of infant mortality. This includes working with grantees to link participant and state data on birth outcomes, refining research questions, data cleaning and analysis and dissemination

to technical and lay audiences. We're responsible for the evaluation design, including the range of program features among grantees, identifying national health performance indicator data to use as a benchmark, and developing/implementing a communications strategy to keep stakeholders informed of evaluation progress.

Abt also supported HRSA and the MCHB during the first and second phases of the Collaborative Improvement & Innovation Network to Reduce Infant Mortality (CoIIN). Abt provided technical assistance to all grantees in the areas of quality improvement methods and innovation, data and measurement, and evaluation and dissemination. We tailor our efforts to meet the needs of each grantee team, helping grantees overcome barriers to reduce infant mortality.



*“Abt is known for both the rigor of our maternal and child health research and how we use evidence to inform interventions and technical assistance that result in better health outcomes.”*

*Christopher Spera, PhD., Division Vice President,  
Health and Environment*





*“Abt is committed to the overall health, well-being and positive development of our nation’s youth. Our rigorous evaluations of adolescent reproductive health is advancing knowledge in the field.”*

*Dr. Donna Elliston  
Senior Associate/Scientist  
Division of Health & Environment*

# Reproductive Health

## Identifying needs—and solutions—for adolescent reproductive health

Abt in partnership with the Children’s Home Society of North Carolina is conducting an evaluation of the **Wise Guys intervention**, a teen pregnancy prevention curriculum targeting males. Our responsibilities include designing and performing a needs assessment to identify gaps or challenges in intervention implementation, designing and executing a pilot study to inform evaluation

implementation and test data collection, and designing and implementing a randomized controlled trial impact study to compare outcomes of adolescents enrolled in the program versus those who were not.

We’re also partnering with Health and Human Services’ Office of Adolescent Health to evaluate the Tier 1B grant program to expand understanding of effective teen pregnancy prevention programs, including community-wide measures. Our role entails documenting strategies used by grantees to scale impact and mobilize their communities and designing a rigorous multi-grantee evaluation to determine the effectiveness of a place-based approach to reducing teen pregnancy rates and disparities, using existing data sources.



# The Abt Advantage

Abt's approach to maternal, child, and reproductive health—in the U.S. and globally—supports cost-effective projects that are appropriate for a variety of settings. We specialize in community involvement, evidence-based interventions, rigorous evaluation, improved quality of care and technical assistance in the delivery of services.

Our outstanding team of qualified staff includes nationally renowned experts in the field of reproductive maternal and child health, quality improvement, evaluation design, measurement, data analysis, site recruitment and technical assistance studies. We have first-hand experience carrying out a variety of reproductive, maternal and child health projects, including implementing learning collaborations, developing and implementing quality improvement projects, designing and implementing rigorous evaluations, managing partnerships with key groups and stakeholders, and leading critical multi-site studies.

# Bold Ideas. Real Results.

Abt Associates is an engine for social impact, dedicated to moving people from vulnerability to security. Harnessing the power of data and our experts' grounded insights, we provide research, consulting and technical services globally in the areas of health, environmental and social policy, technology and international development.



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## WORK WITH US

[bdu@abtassoc.com](mailto:bdu@abtassoc.com)

## PARTNER WITH US

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## JOIN OUR TEAM

[abtassociates.com/careers](http://abtassociates.com/careers)

## Key Focus Areas



Education



Environment  
& Energy



Food Security  
& Agriculture



Governance  
& Justice



Health



Housing,  
Communities  
& Asset Building



Workforce  
& Economic  
Mobility

## Cross-Cutting Core Capabilities



Communications  
& Behavior Change



Data Capture  
& Surveys



Digital  
Transformations



Research, Monitoring,  
& Evaluation



Technical Assistance  
& Implementation

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