



Maternal and Child Health Access

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Welcome, Baby! Registered Nurses – Full or Part-Time

Welcome, Baby! is a visitation pilot program for pregnant women and their families near downtown Los Angeles, funded by First Five LA. It is one component of Best Start LA, a five-year project focused on increasing the number of children who achieve appropriate social, emotional, cognitive, language, physical and motor development milestones to the best of their potential. Best Start LA will also focus on engaging all elements of a community in creating a "baby and toddler friendly" environment. Welcome, Baby! is a partnership among California Hospital Medical Center providing administrative and technical support, Maternal and Child Health Access overseeing programmatic aspects and a coalition of community partner agencies.

Maternal and Child Health Access (MCHA) is a non-profit social service and policy agency whose mission is to improve the health of low income women and families through advocacy, education, training and direct services. We offer a case management program for pregnant and parenting women with an arts and sewing economic development project; health education and support classes, including breastfeeding support; outreach for enrollment into health programs and referrals to health services; trouble-shooting for problems accessing health care or using health programs; and training and technical assistance to agencies on health programs and services available to low-income people. We conduct policy work in areas of access to care and health issue based on our experiences with low-income women and families.

Position Description: RN's will be responsible for visiting families at a critical first home visit within 72 hours of birth. Nurses will exam the baby and engage with the mother by providing breastfeeding and post-partum support to her. They will also refer families to community-based supports, if needed.

Specialized Training:

- Preference given to a nurse with special training in community health, i.e., public health
- Prefer Certified Lactation Educator (CLE) or Certified Lactation Counselor (CLC) breastfeeding training at a minimum, or willingness to be trained as CLE.

Position Requirements:

- At least five years experience working in Maternal-Child Health.
- Knowledge of normal fetal, infant, and toddler development; prenatal and child health requirements; and early childhood education best practices.

- Preference will be given to candidates meeting requirements who live or have lived in the pilot area bounded by Olympic, Jefferson, San Pedro and Normandie streets.
- Experience in making home visits to low-income families.
- Knowledgeable about local community resources and able to refer families to appropriate agencies.
- Experience working with low-income families and families from diverse age, cultural and ethnic backgrounds.
- Empathy, warmth, and the ability to establish trusting supportive relationships with an ethnically diverse population.
- Ability to work collaboratively as a member of a multidisciplinary team.
- Ability to conduct a strength-based family assessment across a broad spectrum of areas using a validated, standardized tool administered in the prescribed manner.
- Skill in organizing and maintaining complete, accurate records and filing reports in a timely manner.
- Skill in writing to articulate concepts and ideas in notes and reports.
- Bilingual preferred, with the ability to communicate in the language(s) represented in the community to be served.
- Familiarity with the effects of domestic violence and parental alcohol and/or other drug abuse on family health, parenting, and general functioning.
- Familiarity with the effects of perinatal depression on child development, parenting, and general functioning.
- Maintain professional boundaries with clients.
- Willing to meet regularly with supervisor to develop a reflective practice and continuously assess their clinical nursing skills and identify areas that need special attention.
- If hired part-time, able to develop a mutually-agreed upon schedule to meet the requirement of a home visit within 72 hours of birth
- Maintain California driver's license and automobile insurance.
- Maintain California license as registered nurse.

Benefits include paid holidays, mileage and parking, health and dental insurance.
Salaries competitive with nursing average for Los Angeles County.

To apply, please send your resume to:

Lynn Kersey, MA, MPH, Executive Director
MCH Access
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Los Angeles, CA. 90017

Or fax to: 213-745-1040 or e-mail: lynnk@mchaccess.org

Start date: Nurses will be hired in June, September and December, 2009

Maternal and Child Health Access is an Equal Opportunity Employer