



Center for Health Equity, Education, & Research

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CHAMPS Receives New Funding from the Kellogg Foundation to Continue Breastfeeding Work in Mississippi

CHAMPS has received a new 3 year grant from the W.K. Kellogg Foundation to continue our work around increasing breastfeeding initiation and exclusive breastfeeding rates in Mississippi, and decreasing racial disparities. The \$650,000

grant for *CHAMPS RAMPS* will allow CHAMPS to continue to support Mississippi hospitals in achieving and maintaining Baby-Friendly designation. It will also enable new collaborations with Mississippi HBCUs to increase breastfeeding rates among African American mothers, and allow us to assess the quantity and quality of breastfeeding support in prenatal and workplace settings.

CHAMPS will continue to work with statewide and national stakeholder organizations like Blue Cross & Blue Shield of MS and the MS Perinatal Quality Improvement Collaborative, Reaching Our Sisters Everywhere (ROSE), and EveryMother.



Staff at a Mississippi hospital celebrate their 2020 Baby-Friendly designation

Since MS CHAMPS launched in 2014, the number of Baby-Friendly hospitals in Mississippi has increased from 0 to 22. This was achieved through direct hospital support, community engagement, and partnerships.

“We’re delighted to receive new funding from the Kellogg Foundation, which will allow us to keep working with the great people in Mississippi to increase breastfeeding rates and improve maternal child health practices throughout the state,” said Anne Merewood, PhD, MPH, the Director of CHAMPS. “I am particularly pleased to be able to expand our work to prenatal and workplace settings, and to start collaborations with the HBCUs. Decreasing racial disparities in breastfeeding rates is our biggest priority.”

The new project will build on Mississippi’s progress so far around increasing breastfeeding rates, improving access to quality breastfeeding support, and reducing racial disparities in infant health outcomes.

CHAMPS is a program of CHEER, the Center for Health Equity, Education, and Research at Boston Medical Center and the Boston University School of Medicine.





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About the W.K. Kellogg Foundation

The W.K. Kellogg Foundation (WKKF), founded in 1930 as an independent, private foundation by breakfast cereal innovator and entrepreneur Will Keith Kellogg, is among the largest philanthropic foundations in the United States. Guided by the belief that all children should have an equal opportunity to thrive, WKKF works with communities to create conditions for vulnerable children so they can realize their full potential in school, work and life.

The Kellogg Foundation is based in Battle Creek, Michigan, and works throughout the United States and internationally, as well as with sovereign tribes. Special attention is paid to priority places where there are high concentrations of poverty and where children face significant barriers to success. WKKF priority places in the U.S. are in Michigan, Mississippi, New Mexico and New Orleans; and internationally, are in Mexico and Haiti. For more information, visit www.wkkf.org.

