



HEALTH SERVICES AGENCY

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March of Dimes Grant for Centering Pregnancy Pilot Project

Stanislaus County - The Health Services Agency Foundation has received a grant of \$20,100 from the March of Dimes, to fund the Centering Pregnancy Pilot Project, led by Dr. Kate Kearns. This pilot project focuses on providing group prenatal care to low-income high risk pregnancy women in the Turlock area. In this model, traditional one-on-one prenatal visits with the physician are replaced by in-depth, two hour group visits involving enhanced education, social support, and self-empowerment. The overall goal of the Centering Pregnancy Project is to reduce pre-term delivery and infant mortality. Centering women also were shown to have higher satisfaction with care, better prenatal knowledge, and higher breastfeeding rates. Centering is being used at about 100 sites around the nation, including many sites in the Bay Area.

The H.S.A. Foundation has been fundraising for the benefit of the Stanislaus County Health Services Agency for the past 25 years. It strives to foster programs and activities that lead to the improvement of the health and well being of all residents of Stanislaus County.

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