

Improving Opportunities for Prenatal Care Among Low-Income Women

Melanie Payne, Epidemiologist, Clark County Public Health; Marni Storey, Public Health Services Manager, Clark County Public Health, Valerie Grahn, RN, BSN, Olympic College, Intern/Kitsap County Health District

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Abstract: Public Health agencies in Kitsap and Clark counties have sought to identify and reduce barriers to prenatal care among low-income women. Kitsap County looked at declining enrollment in Maternity Support Services and ways to increase enrollment among eligible women. They plan a multi-faceted approach that includes community-based marketing, effective written communication, and strategic placement of public health nurses should result in increased client population. Clark County lead a community effort to address the gap in access to first trimester prenatal care, particularly among Medicaid women. They plan various methods to improve options for prenatal care including a Pregnancy Resource and Care Center, Patient Navigator, and nurse prenatal care intake visit.