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A CELEBRATION OF MOTHERHOOD AND COMMUNITY RESOURCES

COMMUNITY PARTNERS COME TOGETHER IN POTTSTOWN FOR COMMUNITY BABY SHOWER

Pottstown – With many expectant mothers in the Pottstown community experiencing compounding challenges, Community Health & Dental Care (CHDC) and Family Services of Montgomery County (Family Services) hosted its first annual Community Baby Shower to honor, celebrate, support, and encourage 20 expectant and new moms on Monday, April 15, 2024, at Montgomery County Community College's North Hall in Pottstown.

According to the March of Dimes 2023 Report Card for Pennsylvania, Montgomery County showed:

- *In 2022, 1 in 11 babies (9.0% of live births) were born preterm in Montgomery. More than one factor at the same time can occur such as: Hypertension, diabetes, smoking, and unhealthy weight occur prior to pregnancy.*
- *The rate of preterm birth in Montgomery is highest for black infants (12.1%), followed by Hispanics (10.2%), Asian/Pacific Islanders (8.4%) and Whites (7.8%).*
- *Lack of prenatal care. In PA, 15.9% of birthing people who received care beginning in the fifth month or later or less than 50% of the appropriate number of visits for the infant's gestational age.*

The Community Baby Shower provided pre-registered attendees with a warm and supportive environment, a delicious lunch sponsored by Pottstown Hospital Tower Health, and opportunities to meet with representatives from community organizations who provided educational resources and information about services to support their motherhood journey. Resources included education about the importance of pre- and post-natal care, car seat instruction, pediatric provider referrals, and more. With the support of generous donations from area businesses, each attendee received goodie bags filled with clothes, baby gear, diapers, gift cards, books donated by Mother Goose and more!

CHDC and Family Services express their deepest gratitude to participating organizations for supporting the community and attending the first annual Community Baby Shower in Pottstown with special thanks to Montgomery County Community College, Pottstown Hospital Tower Health, and Mother Goose for their generous sponsorships. Together, a positive impact was made on the birthing community.

About Community Health & Dental Care

Since 2008, Community Health & Dental Care ensures access to appropriate levels of care for all people in the service area regardless of their ability to pay. CHDC has qualified, caring staff to assist you and your family to become a patient of a true medical and dental home. Same day and integrated appointments are available to meet the scheduling needs of our patients and family members!

CHDC provides medical, dental, OBGYN, vision, podiatry, physical therapy, medication-assisted treatment (MAT), integrated behavioral health, care and case management, and free transportation to and from all CHDC health center locations in Pottstown and Barto. In the Spring of 2024, CHDC will be opening a new medical office in Boyertown.

We accept most major Commercial, Medicare and Medicare supplement plans, Fee for Service Medicaid and Managed Care Medicaid plans and provide a health care discount for eligible uninsured and underinsured patients. For qualified patients receiving a 100% healthcare discount, the nominal fee for a medical/behavioral health/vision visit is \$20, \$35 for a dental visit and \$5 for a prescription! CHDC can offer the health care discount because we receive annual funding from our Federal partner, Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) since 2012 as a designated Federally Qualified Health Center.

For more information or to schedule an appointment, please contact us at 610-326-9460, email us at info@ch-dc.org or visit our website at www.ch-dc.org

About Family Services

Since 1900, Family Services has specialized in providing compassionate support and trustworthy guidance to Montgomery County individuals and families in need. Throughout the agency's 124-year history, its programs have evolved to meet the changing needs of the community. Current programming focuses on Family Support and Parent Education; Health and Wellness; Older Adults; Reentry Services; and Substance Abuse Prevention. Family Services' innovative social service programs make a positive difference in the lives of 11,000+ Montgomery County residents each year. For more information on Family Services, call 610-630-2111 or visit www.fsmontco.org.

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