

# Improving Birth Outcomes: The Centering Louisiana Project

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## OVERVIEW

**Evidence-based interventions in maternal health can improve birth outcomes. Results from a group prenatal care initiative in Louisiana serving women experiencing a variety of risk factors achieved low rates of preterm births and low birthweight babies, and participants were highly satisfied with their experience.**

Historically, Louisiana's birth outcomes have been among the worst in the United States, with the state having the third-highest rates for preterm births and low birthweight babies in 2012. Under the Center for Medicare & Medicaid Innovation's Strong Start Initiative for Mothers and Newborns, the Anthem Public Policy Institute convened a grant project to improve care delivery and birth outcomes for women and babies in Louisiana.

From February 2014 through December 2016, more than 960 low-income pregnant women received services through an evidence-based group prenatal care model with proven results in reducing preterm births and low birthweight babies. The intervention was implemented by seven participating provider sites across the state.

### Topics

- Evidence-based group prenatal care
- Positive birth outcomes
- Beneficiary satisfaction and quality
- Risk factors and barriers to care

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