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| **ISA ISPID  Abstract Submission  Nº: 145**   |  | | --- | | Topics: **Implementing best practices** | | Type: **Thematic Panel** | | **Community Health Forums: Giving Communities an Opportunity to Save Infant Lives** | | **Scott, Stacy** 1 *1 - SID Network of Ohio.* | | **Objectives of the session** Is to inform Participants how The SID Network of Ohio established a collaborative in an effort to inform community on the disparate statistics and the impact infant mortality has on the nation, state and their community has a whole.   The decision was reached to conduct community health forums based on the premise that in order for a person to effect changes; they must first be informed there is something that needs to be changed.  **Content of the session** To highlight a series of forums that differed from other approaches by employing a culturally appropriate and community-based approach. The goal was to learn the perceived and actual barriers regarding Black IM. Offices of Minority Health located in the six chosen cities promoted the forums to local minority communities during the spring/summer of 2014. The forums addressed social determinants, in addition to health equity. Center for Disease Control’s, Promoting Health Equity resource was a backdrop for the forums. An Institute of Medicine Roundtable Report states, “Many initiatives do not embody the community voice, support, and participation that are necessary for sustainable long-term results.” It is necessary for future approaches to involve minority communities to reduce this rate. The feedback received from the forums led to new policies and integrated approaches to eliminate health disparities in Ohio.  **Method and extent of audience participation** This Session will use various methods of instruction including presentation, large group discussions, hands on learning opportunities and dissemination of resource materials  **Proposed content area and why it is important to participants** The SID Network of Ohio conducted 6 community health forums throughout the state of Ohio in conjunction with several partners who have a vested interest in improving the birth outcomes for all Ohio residents.  These 6 forums were conducted in areas where the disparity of infant mortality among African Americans is the highest.   This collaborative set out to inform the community on the disparate statistics and the impact infant mortality has on the nation, state and their community has a whole.  The Network was operating on the premise that in order for a person to effect changes; they must first be informed there is something that needs to be changed.  Considering that in 2011 Ohio’s black infant mortality rate ranked #49 and its overall infant mortality rate ranked #48, It was concurred that a change needed to take place. The goal is to increase the participant’s awareness on how you can engage a community in addressing the impact infant mortality is having on their population. Providing an opportunity to engage them through dialogue in an effort to encourage non-traditional leadership to address issues such as SIDS/SUID.  Participants will increase their knowledge on how to empower and aid a community to save the lives of their infants. The following objectives of the project will be highlighted:1. Document community based and community engaged approaches to planning and implementing Community Health Forum focusing on Black Infant Mortality. 2. Record feedback from minority communities in Ohio regarding Black Infant Mortality. 3. Highlight the importance of state, regional and community partnerships to execute successful community-based health forums. | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | **CONTACT** | | | Name: | **Stacy** | | Lastname: | **Scott** | | E-mail: | **stacy@sidsohio.org** | | Country: | **USA - United States of America** | | Institution | **SID Network of Ohio** | | Cellphone: | **419 490-5993** | | City: | **Cuyahoga Fall** | |