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- About MPHA
- Priorities
- EVENTS
- Blog
- Newsletter
- Jobs
- Join MPHA!
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MPHA Awards Children's HealthWatch's Accomplishments

Posted on November 5, 2015 by mapublichealth



MPHA is pleased to present a *Community Leadership Award* to Children's

HealthWatch. Children's HealthWatch is a

nonpartisan network of pediatricians, public health researchers, and children's health and policy experts dedicated to improving the health and development of young children by informing policies that address and alleviate economic hardships.

Children's HealthWatch leads the Healthy Families EITC Coalition which has worked together with Governor Baker and the legislature to successfully pass the increase to the Massachusetts EITC. The EITC helps the working poor rise out of poverty, lowering the income gap and improving health. Studies have shown that with increases to the EITC:

- Mothers are more likely to receive prenatal care, improving both their health and infant health
- There is a decrease in the incidence of low birth-weight, especially for African American mothers
- Low-educated women have fewer predictors of conditions such as heart attacks and strokes
- Recipients buy more healthy foods, including fruits, vegetables, meat and dairy which can reduce the risk of obesity, type 2 diabetes, and cardiovascular disease.

MPHA applauds Children's HealthWatch's leadership on this campaign. The expansion of the MA EITC is a public health victory for Massachusetts families.

Learn more about [Children's HealthWatch](#).

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[Awards Breakfast](#)

[Built Environment](#)

[Events](#)

[Federal Policy](#)

[Health Equity](#)

[Healthy Food Access](#)

[Job & Volunteer Opportunities](#)

[Latest News](#)

[Legislation](#)

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