

## Feb 22, 2006 - Rep. Slaughter Announces \$500,000 Grant for Rochester's Perinatal Network of Monroe..

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Funding Will be Used to Reduce Infant Mortality

Washington, DC - Rep. Louise M. Slaughter (D-Fairport), Ranking Member of the House Rules Committee, is pleased to announce that the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), a part of the Department of Health and Human Services, has awarded a grant of \$500,000 to the City of Rochester's Perinatal Network of Monroe County (PNMC).

"PNMC has already had tremendous success reducing poor birth outcomes and improving the health of our children," Rep. Slaughter said. "I am confident this funding will further help the infants born in Rochester to have a healthier start to life."

The grant will be used to reduce perinatal health disparities in high-risk neighborhoods through outreach, case management, health education, interconceptional care, and depression services. PNMC intends to increase the percentage of African American women who receive adequate prenatal care from 47.4 percent to 55 percent, and to expand male involvement by working in collaboration with fatherhood programs.

According to PNMC Executive Director Patricia Brantingham, "Infant mortality, prematurity, and low birth weight disproportionately affect African American and Hispanic families in Rochester's most challenged neighborhoods. By reducing disparities in birth outcomes, our community will reap long-term benefits in reduced Medicaid costs, greater educational success, and life-long productivity."

PNMC is a non-profit organization that brings together local health and human services providers and consumers to

ensure that Monroe mothers and their children receive quality and comprehensive perinatal care.