



healthy mothers, healthy babies

**HEALTHY MOTHERS, HEALTHY BABIES**

*Coalition of Georgia*

# HMHB Resource Watch

*Improving the health status of Georgia's families.*

**Volume 9, Issue 9**

**May 7, 2008**

## **You're Invited to.....**

### **2nd Annual Healthy Mothers, Healthy Babies Appreciation Gala**

**When: Saturday May 31st from 6:00-9:00 pm**

**Where: The Michael C. Carlos Museum at Emory University.**

RSVP forms are available online or you can call our office at 770.451.0020 to RSVP. This event will allow HMHB to recognize the outstanding contributions of our committed volunteers, sponsors, coalition members and friends.

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## **Public Health News**

### **Pregnant women told to avoid BPA packaging**

**By Charlotte Eyre**

A US health-advocacy group has warned that pregnant women should reduce their exposure to packaging that contains bisphenol A (BPA) to avoid passing the controversial chemical to their unborn children. The warning, from the Center for Science in the Public Interest (CSPI), will serve as yet more negative publicity for packaging companies, many of which use BPA when manufacturing polycarbonates for water bottles, canned soups and drinks, and baby food bottles. "We don't want to tell people not to eat canned beans or tomatoes," said CSPI nutritionist David Schardt. "But at the same time, it makes sense for all parents, and especially pregnant and nursing women, to minimize the exposure of their kids' developing bodies and brains to BPA." The group cites a scientific study published by the National Institute of Environmental Health (NIEH) in August last year, which warned that rats exposed to BPA experienced "a wide range of adverse effects". While the influence on humans has not yet been fully studied, the NIEH said that the changes in the animals indicated that BPA may provoke childhood health problems such as early onset of puberty, obesity, attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) and urogenital abnormalities.

According to the CSPI, these findings are worrying enough to call for pregnant women to boycott packaging products containing BPA. "In fact, the food industry could make life easier by phasing it out entirely," Schart said. Bisphenol A was first studied in the 1930s as a possible mimic of the hormone estrogen in women. The chemical was later developed to make clear plastics for use in the food industry. Several scientific results have been conducted into the safety of BPA in recent years, and researchers have also linked it to adult health concerns, especially breast and prostate cancer. In 2007, the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) set a maximum limit for human daily intake of BPA of five milligrams per kilo of body weight per day, but stressed that more studies were needed to link the chemical with human health problems. The Canadian government has also launched a study into BPA, the results of which are expected later this year.

Eyre, Charlotte (April 3, 2008) Pregnant Women told to avoid BPA Packaging. Retrieved on May 5, 2008 from: <http://www.foodproductiondaily.com/news/ng.asp?n=84416-spi-bpa>.

For More Information about the BPA Center for Science in the Public Interest (CSPI) Article- **Click [HERE](#)**

For a Center for Science in the Public Interest (CSPI) article related to plastics- **Click [HERE](#).**

## **2008 Breastfeeding Proclamation Signing**

Are you breastfeeding or have breastfeed in the past?

Do you support breastfeeding families in Georgia?

Are you a Business interested in learning how to support a Wellness Program which supports breastfeeding families?

**Please come join the Georgia Breastfeeding Coalition as we  
witness  
Governor Perdue sign the  
2008  
Breastfeeding Awareness  
Month Proclamation**



**May 19, 2008  
10 AM at the Georgia Capitol**

For more information please call or email  
Arlene Toole [aktolle@gmh.edu](mailto:aktolle@gmh.edu)  
Mary Nicholson Jackson [mnj03@comcast.net](mailto:mnj03@comcast.net)



# Giving made simple and FREE!

Join. Shop. Give.  
It's Giving Made Simple.



## Healthy Mothers, Healthy Babies Coalition of Georgia introduces Benevolink as a way of contributing to HMHB!

HMHB would like to thank you for your continued support. As you know, nonprofit organizations are constantly challenged to meet fundraising goals without incurring additional costs. Continued support from donors like you is highly valued -- now, more than ever. We have recently enrolled in a new program called Benevolink. This unique concept provides HMHB with a perpetual funding source to increase financial support. Now, the simple act of everyday shopping can do more than you ever imagined.

Mother's Day and spring planting are here and Father's Day is just around the corner! Shop for all your gift and spring needs through the Marketplace@Benevolink® and earn up to 26% of your purchase for HMHB.

Benevolink offers hundreds of your favorite brand name clothing, travel, floral, home & garden and other retailers. When you shop through Benevolink, you get the same great features and prices plus you earn dollars for your favorite causes ... all without taking extra money out of your pocket!

**How It Works:** Join. Shop. Give. It's that simple!

### How To Get Started:

To learn more, visit the Benevolink website at [www.benevolink.com](http://www.benevolink.com) and join online or contact Benevolink at 1-800-681-GIVE (4483) to speak to a Benevolink representative. Share the benefits of Benevolink with your friends and family. Working together multiplies the impact for HMHB.

You buy the things you want.  
Your favorite charity gets the things it needs.™

## HMHB in the Community

**May 17, 2008** from 10:00 am -1:00 p.m. Pilgrim Cathedral 2589 Tilson Road Decatur GA 30032

**May 23, 2008** from 9:00 am -1:00 p.m. Clayton County Head Start 667 South Ave. Forest Park

**June 5, 2008** from 8:30am-1:00pm Health Information and Fair Luncheon Avondale Estates, GA

**July 26, 2008** from 10:00 am-3:00 p.m. National Medical Association Child Health Festival 210 Peachtree St. Atlanta GA

**If you are having an event, and would like an HMHB staff member to attend or would like HMHB supplies– Please contact us at 770-451-0020, ext. 302. Word of mouth is the best way to educate the citizens of Georgia on HMHB.**



## News From National Healthy Mothers, Healthy Babies— April 21, 2008

**Last Week:**

- 1) [Joint Commission Report Provides Tool to Assess and Overcome Language, Cultural Barriers](#)
- 2) [AHRQ and Ad Council Launch Superheroes Campaign to Improve Hispanic Health](#)
- 3) [Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Seeks Senior Program Officer for its Vulnerable Populations Team](#)
- 4) [Know the Essentials for Tracking Equipment Purchased with Federal Funds](#)

**JOINT COMMISSION REPORT PROVIDES TOOL TO ASSESS AND OVERCOME LANGUAGE, CULTURAL BARRIERS**

A report released today by The Joint Commission, entitled "One Size Does Not Fit All: Meeting the Health Care Needs of Diverse Populations," urges health care organizations to assess their capacity to meet patients' unique cultural and language needs. Based on best practices being employed in hospitals, the new report offers a self-assessment tool that can help health care organizations tailor their initiatives to meet the needs of diverse populations. The tool is the result of a multi-year research study funded by The California Endowment which explored 60 hospitals across the country and their approach to the issue. The report urges hospitals to systemically engage in a range of practices across four areas. Recommended strategies include building a foundation with strong leadership, collecting and using data to improve services, accommodating the needs of specific populations through continuous review and education, and establishing internal and external collaborations that promote the sharing of resources. To access the complete text of "One Size Does Not Fit All: Meeting the Health Care Needs of Diverse Populations," visit The Joint Commission website at <http://www.jointcommission.org>.

**AHRQ AND AD COUNCIL LAUNCH SUPERHEROES CAMPAIGN TO IMPROVE HISPANIC HEALTH**

The US Department of Health and Human Services' Agency for Healthcare Research

and Quality has joined forces with the Ad Council to launch a Spanish-language national public service campaign designed to encourage Hispanics to become more involved in their health care. Featuring moms and dads whose children view them as superheroes, the campaign stresses the importance of preventive screenings and regular doctors' visits and promotes a comprehensive website, <http://www.ahrq.gov/superheroes>. The Ad Council has had an impact on countless families since first creating the category of public service advertising in 1942.

**ROBERT WOOD JOHNSON FOUNDATION SEEKS SENIOR PROGRAM OFFICER FOR ITS VULNERABLE POPULATIONS TEAM**

The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, the largest philanthropy dedicated exclusively to health is seeking an experienced professional with knowledge of how systems of care can improve health outcomes for vulnerable populations. The Senior Program Officer will provide leadership in developing new initiatives, evaluating proposals, monitoring programs, learning from investments and creating impact. Qualifications include an advanced degree, 7 – 10 years extensive experience relevant to the Foundation's interest areas. For links to this and other relevant job postings, go to <http://www.rwjf.org/about/joblisting.jsp>.

**KNOW THE ESSENTIALS FOR TRACKING EQUIPMENT PURCHASED WITH FEDERAL FUNDS**

Did you know that nonprofits are required to track nine details about every piece of equipment or property purchase with federal funds? Accounting, tax, and business consulting firm RSM McGladrey offers a checklist and critical information on this topic in the April 16th edition of its e-news bulletin, "Not-for-profit Muse." Read the full article, access valuable back issues or subscribe to the RSM McGladrey e-news at [\[newsmanager.commpartners.com/rsmnfp/issues/2008-04-16/index.html\]\(http://newsmanager.commpartners.com/rsmnfp/issues/2008-04-16/index.html\).](http://</a></p>
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**Sources:**

- [www.cdc.gov/vaccines](http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines)
- [www.jointcommission.org](http://www.jointcommission.org)
- [www.adcouncil.org](http://www.adcouncil.org)
- [www.rwf.org](http://www.rwf.org)
- [www.rsmmcladrey.com](http://www.rsmmcladrey.com)

Information is reported as provided and does not necessarily represent the view of or the endorsement by the National Healthy Mothers, Healthy Babies Coalition. A complete copy of HMHB's disclaimer is available on the HMHB Web site at <http://www.hmhb.org/disclaimer.html>



## News From National Healthy Mothers, Healthy Babies— May 5, 2008

### This Week:

- 1) May 11-17: National Women's Health Week
- 2) Study Finds C-Section Tied to Strokes
- 3) CDC Survey: 77 Percent of New Mothers Try Breastfeeding
- 4) Registration Open for Centering Pregnancy & Parenting Conference
- 5) Congress to Consider Preparedness Act
- 6) National Women's Health Resource Center Seeks Director of Marketing & Business Development

### MATERNAL-INFANT HEALTH NEWS

**1) MAY 11-17: NATIONAL WOMEN'S HEALTH WEEK** Coinciding with Mother's Day, the Ninth Annual National Women's Health Week is being observed May 11-17. The observance aims at bringing attention to and increasing understanding of a range of women's health issues, encouraging women to get regular check-ups, and educating women about the steps they can take to prevent disease. Health organizations, government, businesses and communities across the nation are participating in this effort. To find out which five key health tests every woman should have at various stages of her life, visit <http://www.womenshealthresearch.org/site/R?i=yjPv4IaIchiuolHrSw3izA>. To learn more about the observance and find events taking place locally and nationally, go to <http://www.womenshealthresearch.org/site/R?i=ZJO0dILi9gFFRgetgPLtyw>.

**2) STUDY FINDS C-SECTION TIED TO STROKES** A new study based on the medical records of almost one million women who gave birth between 1998 and 2002 finds that cesarean section delivery is a significant risk factor for stroke during the three- to 12-month postpartum period. The research team finds that c-section delivery should be added to the list of risk factors for stroke in women that also includes hypertension, smoking and obesity. And the study's authors note that the data suggests one more reason for working toward a reduction in the cesarean rate. For the abstract from the American Journal of Obstetrics and Gynecology (AJOG), go to [http://www.ajog.org/article/S0002-9378\(07\)02011-X/abstract](http://www.ajog.org/article/S0002-9378(07)02011-X/abstract).

**3) CDC SURVEY: 77 PERCENT OF NEW MOTHERS TRY BREASTFEEDING** According to a CDC survey released last week, more than three-quarters of new mothers in the US breastfeed their infants for at least a brief period of time. The survey, part of the National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey, uses data from 434 infants. Indications are that the percentage of new mothers who try breastfeeding has steadily risen, from 60 percent in 1993-1994 to 77 percent in 2005 and 2006. The percentage of African American infants who were breastfed has increased from 36 to 65 percent during the same period, while the percentage of Hispanic breastfed infants increased from 67 to 80 percent. Rates are lowest among women who are low-income, rural, younger than age 20, unmarried and have a high school education or less. The survey did not report data on breastfeeding rates for infants six months of age and older. To access the report of this survey, go to <http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/databriefs/db05.htm>.

### CHILD, ADOLESCENT, FAMILY & COMMUNITY HEALTH NEWS

**4) REGISTRATION OPEN FOR CENTERING PREGNANCY & PARENTING CONFERENCE** The Centering Healthcare Institute (CHI), formerly known as the Centering Pregnancy & Parenting Association, has opened registration and exhibitor enrollment for its Second Annual Conference on Group Care, with a focus on group care across the lifespan. The event takes place September 21-23, 2008 in Indianapolis, and is geared toward health care professionals, educators and consumers. Centering Pregnancy and Centering Parenting have been recognized as innovative models of integrated care for expectant and new parents, who receive health assessment, education and support within a stable group of women, families/friends and infants. To learn more, go to [www.centeringpregnancy.com](http://www.centeringpregnancy.com).

### ADVOCATES IN ACTION

**5) CONGRESS TO CONSIDER PREPAREDNESS ACT** Last week the House Homeland Security Subcommittee on Emergency Communications, Preparedness and Response reviewed the recently-introduced Citizen and Community Preparedness Act,

HR 5890, which contains key provisions impacting children's issues. The Act would create a Community Preparedness Division within the Department of Homeland Security that would, among other things, establish special preparedness programs for children, individuals with physical and mental disabilities and socially and economically disadvantaged households and communities. To learn more, go to <http://hsc.house.gov/press/index.asp?ID=363>.

### JOB OPPORTUNITY

**6) NATIONAL WOMEN'S HEALTH RESOURCE CENTER SEEKS DIRECTOR OF MARKETING & BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT** The National Women's Health Resource Center (NWHRC) is accepting applicants for the position of Director of Marketing and Business Development, to develop and implement alliance-building and increase awareness about NWHRC and its services for the corporate community, professional community and consumer groups, positioning the Center as a leader in women's health. For a complete description of the position and application instructions, go to <http://www.healthywomen.org/aboutnwhrc/jobopportunities>.

### Sources:

<http://www.womenshealthresearch.org>  
<http://www.ajog.org>  
<http://www.cdc.gov/nchs>  
<http://www.centeringpregnancy.com>  
<http://hsc.house.gov>  
<http://www.healthywomen.org>

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## Public Health Conferences and Events

### May 7-10, 2008

Title: 31st Annual Rural Health Association Conference  
Location: New Orleans, LA  
See: [www.nrharural.org](http://www.nrharural.org)

### May 10-13, 2008

Title: Nutrition and Health Conference  
Location: Chicago, Illinois  
See: [www.nutritionandhealthconf.org](http://www.nutritionandhealthconf.org)

### May 19-22, 2008

Title: Prevent Child Abuse America National Conference  
Location: Milwaukee, WI  
See: [www.preventchildabuse.org](http://www.preventchildabuse.org)

### May 21-24, 2008

Title: [SOPHE Midyear Scientific Conference Heads to the Windy City](#)  
Location: Renaissance Chicago Hotel, Chicago, IL  
See: [www.sophe.org](http://www.sophe.org)

### May 23-May 28, 2008

Title: The American College of Nurse-Midwives 53rd Annual Meeting  
Location: Boston, MA  
See: [www.midwife.org/news.cfm?id=1170](http://www.midwife.org/news.cfm?id=1170)

### May 30, 2008, 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM

Voices for Georgia's Children  
GA-CAN! 2008 Legislative Session Wrap-Up  
Location: AT & T building at 1025 Lenox Park Boulevard  
See: <http://www.georgiavoices.org/GACAN08Debrief.aspx>

### May 31, 2008

Title: **HMHB Appreciation Gala**

Location:

**Michael C. Carlos Museum at Emory University**

See: [www.hmhbga.org](http://www.hmhbga.org)



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Coalition of Georgia

*Improving the health status of  
Georgia's families.*

Healthy Mothers, Healthy Babies Coalition of  
Georgia, Inc.  
2300 Henderson Mill Road, Suite 410  
Atlanta, GA. 303045  
[www.hmhbga.org](http://www.hmhbga.org)

Phone: 770-451-0020  
The Powerline: 770-451-5501 or 800-822-2539  
Fax: 770-451-2466  
E-mail: [thecoalition@hmhbga.org](mailto:thecoalition@hmhbga.org)

## May Health Observances

1 - 31

American Stroke Month  
American Heart Association  
[www.americanheart.org](http://www.americanheart.org)

1 - 31

Asthma and Allergy Awareness Month  
Asthma and Allergy Foundation of America  
[www.aafa.org](http://www.aafa.org)

1 - 31

Clean Air Month  
American Lung Association  
[www.lungusa.org](http://www.lungusa.org)

1 - 31

Mental Health Month  
[www.mentalhealthamerica.net](http://www.mentalhealthamerica.net)

1 - 31

National High Blood Pressure Education Month  
[hin.nhlbi.nih.gov/nhbpep\\_kit/](http://hin.nhlbi.nih.gov/nhbpep_kit/)

1 - 31

National Physical Fitness and Sports Month  
President's Council on Physical Fitness and Sports  
[www.fitness.gov](http://www.fitness.gov)

1 - 31

National Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month  
[www.advocatesforyouth.org](http://www.advocatesforyouth.org)

4 - 10

Children's Mental Health Awareness Week  
Federation of Families for Children's Mental Health  
[www.ffcmh.org](http://www.ffcmh.org)

11 - 17

National Alcohol- and Other Drug-Related Birth Defects Week  
National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence, Inc.  
(NCADD)  
[www.ncadd.org](http://www.ncadd.org)

11 - 17

National Women's Health Week  
[www.womenshealth.gov/whw](http://www.womenshealth.gov/whw)

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National Women's Check-up Day  
[www.womenshealth.gov](http://www.womenshealth.gov)

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and or its content to Jessica Hawkins at [jessica.hawkins@hmhbga.org](mailto:jessica.hawkins@hmhbga.org).

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