

STRENGTH IN NUMBERS

Improving the Quality of
Newborn Care in Arkansas



NURSERY ALLIANCE

Arkansas Children's Hospital Nursery Alliance



For more than 100 years, Arkansas Children's has cared for the most critically injured and ill children in the region. Yet, by most national measures of child health and well-being, Arkansas ranks in the bottom 10 of the 50 states. The state's infant mortality rates are among the highest in the country: Out of every 1,000 live births, eight babies die. The children of Arkansas deserve better.

Thankfully, there is hope. Health care leaders across the state are on a mission to improve infant mortality rates and improve health care delivery for infants in Arkansas.

Arkansas Children's Hospital (ACH) has the only Arkansas Department of Health-designated Level IV Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) in the state. As such, Arkansas Children's Hospital created the Arkansas Children's Hospital Nursery Alliance in 2016 to assist allied hospitals in providing expert neonatal and infant care close to home in their NICUs and newborn nurseries.

“Creating opportunities to improve and better coordinate care outside the walls of ACH is one of the best ways to improve outcomes for children in Arkansas. It can have a real impact on community health and helps standardize care by being part of the alliance.”

Ashley S. Ross, M.D.

Neonatologist and chief of neonatology at Arkansas Children's and professor of pediatrics at the University of Arkansas Medical Sciences



Partners On A Mission

The ACH Nursery Alliance was established in November 2016, with Conway Regional Health System as its first partner. The alliance established collaborative educational opportunities between neonatologists at ACH's Level IV NICU and physicians in Conway Regional's Level II NICU and newborn nursery to help improve the quality of newborn care and keep sick infants close to home.

Part of the Arkansas Children's statewide network of care, the Nursery Alliance facilitates training, sharing of best practices and coordination of care between physicians, nurses and other clinical staff at the ACH NICU and physicians and staff at newborn nurseries and lower-level NICUs. The teams are united by one goal: improving the health of infants statewide.

The ACH Nursery Alliance creates networking and learning opportunities for allied hospitals and ACH teams to share their passion about newborn care and work together to improve the health and well-being of babies and their families.



JOIN US!

Benefits of joining the ACH Nursery Alliance:

- Shared best practices and protocols
- Real-time collaboration utilizing advanced technology
- Networking
- Hospital specific benchmarking data
- Quality improvement opportunities
- Improving the health of neonates in local newborn nurseries and communities across the state





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