

## MARCH OF DIMES OPENS NEW HEADQUARTERS IN ARLINGTON, VA

Move Allows Greater Access to Policymakers as Organization Continues to Lead the Fight for the Health of All Moms and Babies

Arlington, VA (January x, 2019) – March of Dimes, the leading nonprofit organization for maternal and infant health, announced today the opening of its new headquarters in Arlington, Virginia, a suburb of Washington, DC. The move comes on the heels of a year-long transformation designed to increase greater awareness and engagement with the organization's work in support of moms and babies across the country.

"With our move to Arlington, we are able to work more closely with policymakers on both sides of the aisle to advance critical legislation that will protect moms and babies," said March of Dimes President Stacey D. Stewart. "It also allows us to increase collaboration with corporate and national nonprofits on important health-related issues."

March of Dimes supports policies at both the federal and state levels to advance the health of women, children and families. The organization promotes health equity and addresses disparities related to social, structural, or demographic factors. This year, its top federal advocacy policies include legislation to prevent maternal mortality, prevent and treat preterm birth, and improve newborn screening.

The new office, located at 1550 Crystal Drive in the Crystal City neighborhood, provides 28,000 square feet of space. The organization signed a lease with real estate developer, JBG Smith.

In 2018, March of Dimes was recognized for advocacy victories such as passage of the PREEMIE Reauthorization Act, which renewed the only federal law dedicated to preventing and treating preterm birth. March of Dimes also played a significant role in defending portions of the Affordable Care Act that require insurers to cover individuals with pre-existing conditions (such as pregnant women and babies born preterm) and to offer maternity and newborn coverage in all health plans.

In October 2018, March of Dimes launched the landmark <u>#BlanketChange</u> campaign to urge elected officials to support specific maternal and child health priorities. The campaign also included a "blanket memorial" on the National Mall, where 700 receiving blankets were laid out to represent the 700 women who die from pregnancy-related causes each year. Concurrently, March of Dimes released a <u>report</u> illustrating so-called "maternity care deserts" across the U.S. where it is difficult for millions of women to obtain health care services related to pregnancy and childbirth.

In addition to advocacy, March of Dimes also leads the fight for the health of all moms and babies by investing in breakthrough research, empowering women throughout their pregnancy journey, supporting community programs and families across the U.S.

**QUOTES FROM ARLINGTON & JBG SMITH** 

## **About March of Dimes**

March of Dimes leads the fight for the health of all moms and babies. We support research, lead programs and provide education and advocacy so that every family can have the best possible start. Building on a successful 80-year legacy of impact and innovation, we stand up for every mom and every baby. Visit marchofdimes.org or nacersano.org for more information. Visit shareyourstory.org for comfort and support. Find us on Facebook and follow us on Instagram and Twitter.