

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

EXECUTIVE ORDER HM 26-07

CITYWIDE YOUTH AND FAMILIES STRATEGIC PLANNING

WHEREAS, the City’s long-term public safety, economic vitality, and quality of life depend on healthy and thriving families, and particularly youth well-being and opportunity; and

WHEREAS, youth and family services are more effective when coordinated with measurable goals, community input, and clear accountability;

NOW THEREFORE, I, HELENA MORENO, pursuant to the authority vested in me as the Mayor of the City of New Orleans by Section 4-206(3) of the New Orleans Home Rule Charter and other applicable law, **DO HEREBY ORDER AS FOLLOWS**:

1. **Purpose.** This Order outlines for short-term goals and long-term strategic planning to continue and expand universal, meaningful, and effective support for youth and families in the City of New Orleans, building upon existing efforts to develop a Citywide Youth Master Plan (“Youth Master Plan”) and Community Health Assessment and Improvement Plan (“CHA/CHIP”) to coordinate City initiatives and align partners around shared goals, measurable outcomes, and transparent reporting.

2. **Effective Date.** This Order shall become effective upon execution.

3. **Sustaining and Expanding Existing Family Programs and Strategies.** The Department of Health and Human Services (“HHS”) will oversee the City’s efforts in creating and/or strengthening a continuous network of resources and support for family health and well-being, starting with pregnancy and continuing through adolescence and young adulthood.

4. **Planning Elements.** Efforts shall include and/or be conducted as follows:

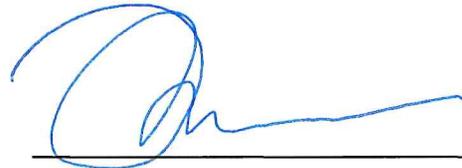
A. A baseline CHA with specific areas of focus on pregnancy, infant, youth, adolescent, and holistic family basic needs, health, and quality of life. This assessment shall be community-driven, with direct input from a broad and diverse sample of residents from all Council districts, civic leadership, service providers, health and education practitioners, business and nonprofit representatives, faith groups, and others invested in the community.

B. Existing major HHS programs and services across the lifespan of families shall be strengthened for maximal impact to the greatest number of residents, including:

1. Healthy Start New Orleans to provide intensive case management from pregnancy to 18 months for areas at high risk of infant mortality, serving families citywide and including expanded doula services.
2. WIC clinics to address the nutritional needs of breastfeeding women and children under 5, together with increased enrollment and expanded services in at least one additional underserved location.
3. Family Connects New Orleans to provide universal postpartum home visits to every Orleans Parish birth at Touro and Ochsner Baptist, with increased awareness so that every family accepts in home visits with relevant direct basic needs support, leading to significant health improvements, early detection of common and serious postpartum and infant issues, and decreased Medicaid spending.
4. Subsidized Early Childhood Education seats through the City millage with preserved State match, to ensure high-quality early intervention, vision, hearing, and developmental screening and direct services for children 3 and under.
5. Expanded SNAP/Medicaid enrollment days and sites at community centers across the City.
6. Continued strong communication, outreach, and coordination with pediatric health care providers on the importance of childhood vaccinations, in alignment with evidence-based, national medical specialty guidelines.
7. New, expanded, or strengthened initiatives to provide for the health and well-being of New Orleans families, including:
 - a. Publication and implementation of a CHIP that reflects the priorities and challenges identified in the community-led CHA, including youth- and family-specific goals, and actively executes with diverse community partners on achievable solutions;
 - b. Initiation of a feasibility study and strategic planning for universal basic needs support to pregnant and postpartum families, with analysis of economic and health returns on public investment;
 - c. Increased access to intensive mental-health resources and support in each New Orleans public school;
 - d. Assessment of the needs of adolescents, including summer youth opportunities, violence prevention, and school attendance in partnership with key stakeholders (public schools, youth-serving organizations, workforce partners) to assess the landscape and determine HHS roles in the solutions;
 - e. Engagement to preserve and enhance youth voice through youth advisory panels, listening sessions and engagement coordinated through the Mayor's Office of External Affairs; and

- f. Creation of appropriate implementation roadmaps, including budget implications and potential funding sources (grants, braided funding, etc.).
5. **Data Analysis and Evaluation.** HHS shall assess and evaluate, wherever possible, the effectiveness of programs and strategies serving youth and families.
6. **Timeline.** The Plan Lead shall report on both new and existing goals listed above within 180 days of this Order, with a report on the attainment goals annually thereafter.
7. **Duration.** This Order shall remain effective until amended, rescinded, or terminated in accordance with applicable law.

WITNESS MY HAND AND SEAL THIS 12TH DAY OF JANUARY, 2026 AT NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA.



Helena Moreno
Mayor
City of New Orleans