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As you know, mental health is a cross-cutting issue that impacts millions of women, children and families. Title V programs play an important role in ensuring access to mental health services for families, including prevention, intervention, and treatment of mental illness. Because Title V programs already reach families through other services, they are uniquely positioned to provide critical mental health care. The majority of state maternal and child health programs identify mental health as a priority need.

With support from the Maternal and Child Health Bureau, Health Resources and Services Administration, AMCHP provides Title V programs with information on mental health resources.

To assist in this effort, AMCHP and the National Academy for State Health Policy (NASHP) convened invitational meeting on August 15 and October 19, 2006, to begin discussions about improving state maternal and child health (MCH) and child mental health (CMH) program coordination in developing systems to meet the mental health needs of children and youth. The meeting was based on the premise that meeting child and adolescent mental health needs requires a continuum of services. This continuum includes promotion of social and emotional health and development, as well as prevention, early intervention, and care for mental health conditions affecting children and adolescents.

The attached report includes highlights from the meetings AMCHP and NASHP convened, titled **Building Better Systems for Child and Adolescent Mental Health.**

Thank you for the opportunity to submit this report.