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**No Mother or Child Left Behind:
Cuba's Maternal and Child Homes**



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Presenter Disclosure
Debra Anne Jones, MD

The following personal financial relationships
 with commercial interests relevant to this
 presentation existed during the past 12 months


No relationships to disclose

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AGENDA

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Focus of Presentation




Qualitative study describing maternity care in Cuba observed during a visit to a maternity home in Havana by APHA delegates in 2010

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About Cuba...



Area: 110,860 sq. km. (44,200 sq. mi.); slightly smaller than Pennsylvania (US Dept. of State)

Population Mid-2010: 11,300,000 (PRB)

Adult Literacy Rate, 2005-08: 100% (UNICEF)

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Historical Perspectives

Current communist government assumed power on January 1, 1959 (US Department of State)


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Gross Domestic Product 2010: \$114.1 billion
(CIA World Fact book)



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Main Source of Income



- ▶ Biomedical Export
- ▶ Tourism
- ▶ Sugar Cane

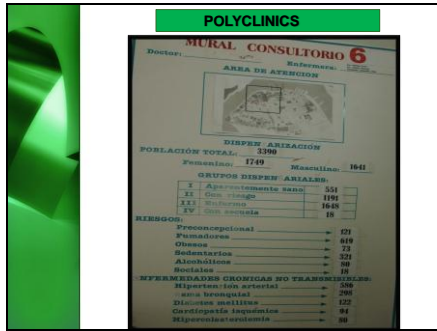
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Environmental Factors

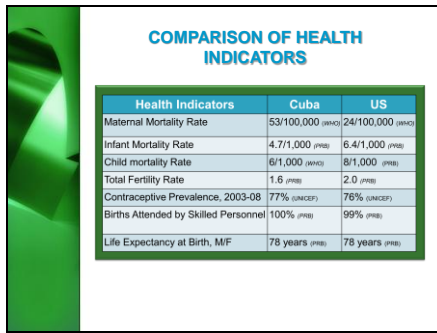


- ▶ All medical services are provided free of charge in Cuba
- ▶ Regional health services are provided thru Polyclinics, maternal homes and hospitals

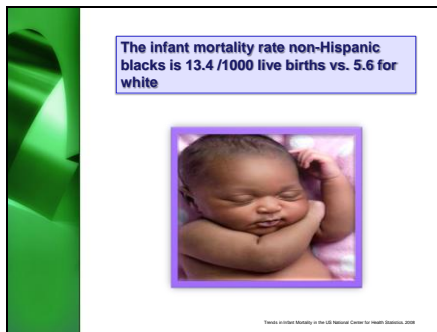
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COMPARISON OF HEALTH EXPENDITURE

Expenditure Indicators	Cuba	US
GDP Per Capita (2010)	\$9,900 (CIA World Factbook)	\$47,200 (CIA World Factbook)
Total expenditure on health per capita (2009)	\$503 (WHIC)	\$7,410 (WHIC)
Total expenditure on health as % of GDP (2009)	11.8 (WHIC)	16.2 (WHIC)

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THE FOUNDATIONS OF CUBA'S HEALTH CARE POLICY

- ▶ Health as a Human Right
- ▶ Public Health Approach
- ▶ Focus on Prevention

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STRATEGIES

- ▶ Cuba utilizes Community-Based Regional Maternity Homes to provide comprehensive care for women with high-risk pregnancies
- ▶ This innovative and effective strategy has lowered infant and maternal mortality rates

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STRATEGIES

- ▶ Women are screened and if found to be "at risk" are referred to Maternity Homes
- ▶ Prenatal services are provided : routine prenatal care, genetic screening, ultrasound, laboratory studies, dental care, nutritional & psychosocial services

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RESULTS OF STRATEGIES

- ▶ Strengthen of global efforts to achieve MDG's 4 and 5 by investing in maternal health by SAFEGUARDING at risk pregnancies
- ▶ Cuba has improved infant mortality using less financial resources than some industrialized countries

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**RESULTS OF STRATEGIES
in CUBA**

Year	Maternal Mortality Ratio (per 100,000 Live Births)	Infant Mortality (per 100 Live Births)
1957	NA	37.6
1962	117.9	41.5
1967	90.1	36.4
1972	52.0	28.7
1982	48.2	17.3
1992	33.0	10.2
2003	39.5	6.3
2010	43.1	4.5

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**MATERNAL HEALTH: COMPARISON
OF SELECTED STRATEGIES**

DIMENSION	CUBA	USA
PRECONCEPTION	-Universal	- Sporadic - Individual physicians - Patient-driven - Governmental & Non-Governmental Agencies
GENETIC SCREENING	-National	- Patient-driven - Non-Governmental Agencies
HIGH RISK / AT RISK PREGNANCIES	-Maternity Homes	-Inpatient acute care setting -Out patient facilities
ACUTE CARE FACILITIES	-Yes	-Yes

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Selected Aspects of Current US policies: Healthy People 2020

- ▶ National Public Health Initiative dedicated to improving health outcomes for American citizens .
- ▶ Maternal and child health is a core area of focus "Their well-being determines the health of the next generation and can help predict future public health challenges for families, communities, and the health care system

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Selected Aspects of Current US policies: Healthy People 2020

- MICH-1:** Reduce the rate of fetal and infant deaths
- MICH-2:** Reduce the 1-year mortality rate for infants with Down syndrome
- MICH-3:** Reduce the rate of child deaths.
- MICH-4:** Reduce the rate of maternal mortality
- MICH-6:** Reduce low birth weight (LBW) and very low birth weight (VLBW)
- MICH-9:** Reduce preterm births
- MICH-10:** Increase proportion of pregnant women receiving early/adequate prenatal care
- MICH-16:** Increase the proportion of women delivering a live birth who received preconception care services and practiced key recommended preconception health behaviors

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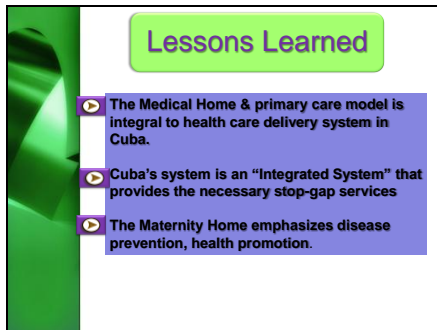
Selected Aspects of Current US policies: Healthy People 2020

Life Course Perspective

We have to do much more not just in healthcare but also in policy to create conditions in which all mothers and babies can be healthy."

—Dr. Michael C. Liu

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Lessons Learned

- ▶ The Medical Home & primary care model is integral to health care delivery system in Cuba.
- ▶ Cuba's system is an "Integrated System" that provides the necessary stop-gap services
- ▶ The Maternity Home emphasizes disease prevention, health promotion.

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Lessons Learned


- ▶ US National Public Health Policies are needed to address Infant & Maternal mortality
- ▶ Currently governmental & non governmental agencies are attempting to improve Perinatal outcomes
- ▶ Perinatal outcomes impacts individuals , families, local communities and the health of our nation .

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Lessons Learned

- ▶ Recent studies implicate the intrauterine environment & Perinatal outcomes with the risk of developing chronic illnesses: obesity; hypertension; coronary artery disease; diabetes.
- ▶ Call for policy makers to look at Cuba as a model to improve the health of women , their unborn children and consequentially the nation

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OUR FUTURE
