

Community baby shower to combat infant mortality scheduled for Sept. 9 in Mansfield

You have the opportunity to connect your organization with a [Richland Source](#) event getting [national attention](#). Richland Source will use a \$10,000 [Solutions Journalism Network](#) grant to combat infant mortality in a unique way on Sept. 9 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The online-only local news organization will host a community baby shower for all mothers, expectant mothers, fathers and families in the community. The event will connect mothers and families in Richland County with a myriad of resources available through community health organizations. Each participant will move through a fun, game-like environment where they will learn all about the best ways to give their infant a safe, happy first year of life.

It will also provide an opportunity for women and families to engage with Richland Source staff, so that they might learn more about the key issues facing new families, and the important stories that will aid in the community's fight against infant mortality.

At the end of their experience, participants will leave with a [Baby Box](#) filled with useful gift items donated by area agencies and participating companies. Richland Source is recruiting additional organizations who would like to tie their brand or cause to a big newsworthy event that will get them massive public exposure. This event will get you in front of hundreds of thousands of people in Richland, Ashland and Crawford County who are paying attention to it. Please consider donating items, gift cards or monetary gifts so that Richland Source can make this event as beneficial as possible for families throughout the region.

The baby shower will take place at the [Idea Works](#), Richland Source's new location, at 40 W. Fourth St.

Richland Source received the grant in early 2017 to further the work started in the series [Healing Hope](#), discussing the issues of infant mortality and the services available to combat it. This series of stories delves deeper into the cause of that problem and offers potential solutions in dealing with it. It was determined that safe-sleep education was among the best tools to fight that statistic.

Ohio has one of the worst infant mortality rates in the nation and Richland County ranks among the bottom of the state's statistics in the same category.

PARTICIPATING PARTNERS

Participating partners include Richland Public Health, OhioHealth, Women's Care, Richland County WIC, Mansfield / Richland County Public Library, Community Health Action Project (CHAP), Richland Pregnancy Services, Mansfield Area YMCA, WeACT, Richland New Hope, Count the Kicks, NCSC Early Head Start & Campus Development

Center, First Call 211, Ohio Heartland Community Action Commission, Richland Job and Family Services, YWCA of Northwest Ohio.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Website: <http://www.madeinthe419.com/community-baby-shower>

Video: <https://youtu.be/KfzRLi2ojxc>

CONTACT

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P.S. Check out what Poynter.org said: <https://www.poynter.org/2017/heres-why-richland-source-is-throwing-a-community-baby-shower/469130/>