# **Premature Births: Problem Analysis Diagram**

# Social/Economic/Policy Level

#### Social Issues

Racial & social discrimination Poverty Cultural practices

#### **Economic Issues**

High unemployment due to federal policies Lack of workplace regulations for pregnant women

## **Environmental Factors**

Lack of regulation of toxins harmful to pregnant women

## **Health Care**

High cost/ unaffordable insurance
Lack of public health education programs on prematurity
prevention/recognition of premature labor symptoms
Limited availability of health services
Complex system

## Education

Poor education for low-income residents in public schools

# Family/Community/Institutional Level

## Community

Unaffordable housing Lack of jobs Transportation problems High poverty rate Environmental toxins Unavailable healthy foods Single mother norm

# **Health Care System**

Limited access to health/dental care
Lack of affordable family planning
Lack of culturally sensitive services
Lack of prevention educational
materials & counseling on
symptoms of premature labor
Early elective deliveries <39 weeks

Lack of adequate health insurance

## **Maternal Behaviors**

Tobacco use
Alcohol/substance
abuse
Poor nutrition
Untreated maternal
infections
Sexually transmitted
diseases
Multiple abortions

## **Maternal Characteristics**

Stress/ mental health issues
Chronic medical conditions: e.g. diabetes hypertension
Lack of knowledge about symptoms of preterm labor/preterm labor risks
Lack of social support
Teen mother
Previous premature birth
Lack of prenatal care
African American ancestry
Short inter-pregnancy interval

# **Individual Level**

Genetic/ congenital abnormalities

Exposure to cigarette smoke, alcohol or illicit drugs in utero

#### **Uterine Factors**

Uterine trauma secondary to intentional/ unintentional injury Cervical or uterine anomaly

Abruptio placenta/placenta previa Chorioamnioitis Multiple pregnancies

Exposure to high cortisol levels in utero

**Environmental toxins** 

# Target Outcome(s): Consequences:

Premature births; preconception health; maternal health & mental wellness; provider & public education

Cerebral Palsy; Intellectual Disabilities; Visual Problems: Hearing Loss, Respiratory Problems (acute & chronic); Feeding & Digestive problems, High cost for care over lifetime