



Maryland Maternal Health Improvement Task Force Winter Quarterly Meeting

January 24, 2023



Housekeeping

- Please keep yourself on mute unless speaking



Group Agreements

- **Be Present** – Make a conscious effort to know who is in the room, become an active listener. Refrain from multitasking and checking emails during meetings.
- **Call Each Other In As We Call Each Other Out** – When challenging ideas or perspectives give feedback respectfully. When being challenged - listen, acknowledge the issue, and respond respectfully.
- **Recognize the Difference of Intent vs Impact** – Be accountable for our words and actions
- **Create Space for Multiple Truths** – Seek understanding of differences in opinion and respect diverse perspectives.
- **Notice Power Dynamics** – Be aware of how you may unconsciously be using your power and privilege.
- **Center Learning and Growth** – At times, the work will be uncomfortable and challenging. Mistakes and misunderstanding will occur as we work towards a common solution. We are here to learn and grow from each other both individually and collectively.



Agenda

- Welcome and Introduction of new members
- Task Force Business
- Progress on Maternal Health Strategic Action Plan Update
- Update on Survey of Birthing Services in Maryland
- Wrap up, next steps, and adjournment



Task Force Business

Progress on Maternal Health Strategic Action Plan Update

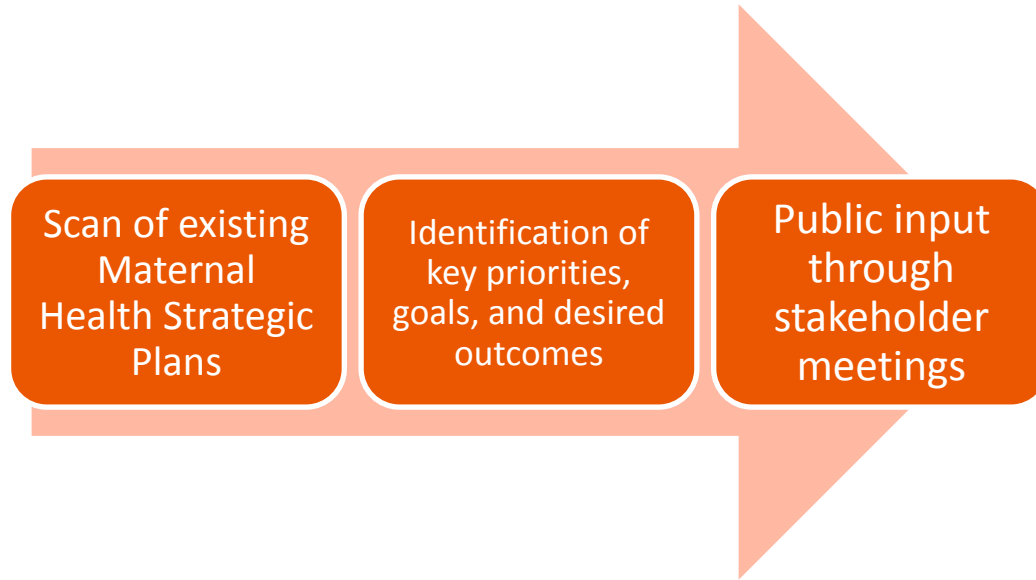


Overview of the Maryland Maternal Health Improvement Strategic Plan

- Developed by the Task Force in Summer/Fall 2021
- Released in late 2021
- Outlines priorities, goals, and activities to improve health of birthing people across five areas

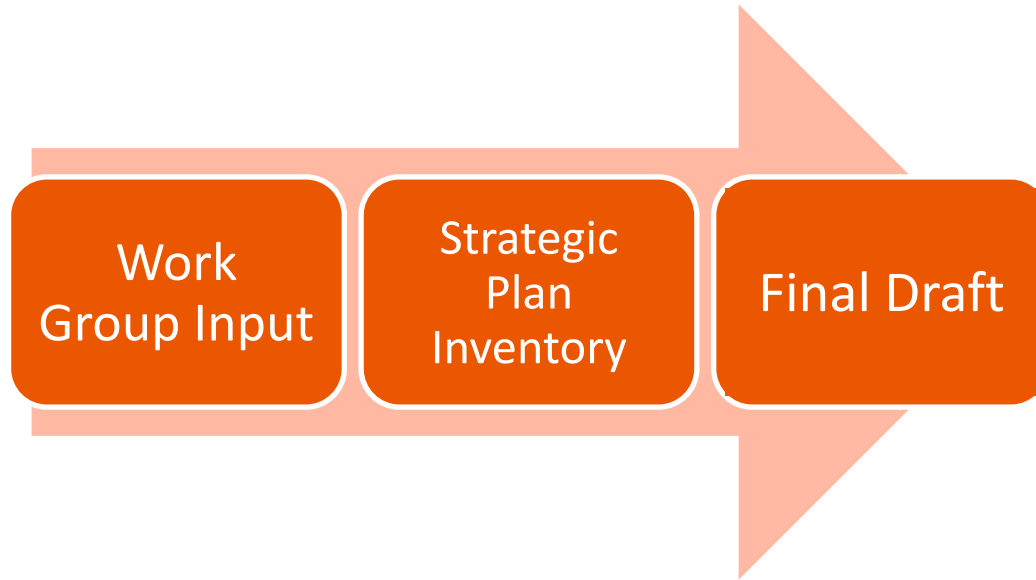


Strategic Plan: Development Process





Strategic Plan: Development Process





Strategic Plan: Priorities and Goals

Strategic Priorities (SP)	Goals
1) Equity and Anti-Racism	1) Promote equity and anti-racism in maternal health policies and practices
2) Achieve Improved Health Using the Life Course Model	2) Promote maternal health (preconception, prenatal and birth, postpartum and interconception periods) through the implementation of effective programs and advocacy for necessary policy change. Subgoal 2a: Preconception health: Provide adequate support and resources to ensure birthing people can choose when to become pregnant and optimize their health in anticipation of the pregnancy. Subgoal 2b: Prenatal and birth period health: Achieve healthy pregnancies and birth outcomes. Subgoal 2c: Postpartum and interconception health: Achieve healthy futures with comprehensive postpartum and interconception care to support healing and optimal maternal mental health and healthy parent-child bonding during the postpartum period.
3) Families and Communities	3) Acknowledge the influence of the social determinants of health and historical racism in the development of strategies to improve resiliency and promote an optimal quality of life for birthing people, their families, and their communities.
4) Data	4) Improve access to and utilization of data and improve surveillance of data on structural racism and its impact, to make informed policy decisions.
5) Workforce	5) Develop a maternal health provider workforce that will be available, accessible, and culturally relevant and whose practice is rooted in principles of equity and racial justice.



Strategic Plan: Priorities

1. Equity and
Anti-Racism

2. Achieve Health
through a Life
Course Model

3. Families and
Communities

4. Data

5. Work Force

Updating Progress on the Strategic Plan -2023



Overview of the Project

- Highlight the progress to date since launch of Strategic Plan in Fall 2021
- Update Plan to represent current priorities
- Provide current information on priority topics to MHITF
- Inform future Task Force activities and planning



Timeline

- December 2022 - January 2023: Gather updates from partners
- February - April 2023:
 - Task Force convenes working groups
 - Finalize updates
- June - August 2023: Draft update and finalize design, publish



Strategic Plan Action Plan Update - Data Gathering

- MDH sent requests for updates on progress from November 2021 to December 2022 from partners listed in the action plan
- Collected December and January

Strategic Plan Action Plan Update - Data highlights



Goal/Objective	Update	Lead Organization
Objective 2A.1: Increase access to comprehensive, quality family planning and reproductive health services across Maryland through the Maryland Family Planning Program.	Starting needs assessment for family planning in state	Maryland Family Planning Program
Objective 2A.2: Improve prevention, diagnosis and treatment of cardiovascular disease and hypertension, through counseling, medical evaluations, medical and non-medical therapies	Provide office and remote blood pressure monitoring as well as performance based incentive for Blood Pressure control at Maryland Primary Care sites - Implementation of performance-based incentive is complete.	Maryland Primary Care Program
Objective 5.4 Increase accessibility to prenatal care as well as oral and behavioral health during the prenatal period in communities with members who face barriers to receiving prenatal care due (e.g., immigration status). - <i>Tactic 1. Expand the Thrive by Three Fund to also fund for individuals who are not able to receive prenatal care</i>	As of 07/01/2022, an additional \$1 million in Thrive by Three funds was distributed amongst four new sites, to increase access to prenatal care for individuals who are not able to receive prenatal care. On 07/01/2023, an additional \$1 million will be made available, and will be distributed via a competitive grant process.	MDH (MCHB)



Strategic Plan Action Plan Update - Next steps

- Task Force will split into 5 working groups
 - Based on strategic priorities
 - Determine if the objectives and tactics are sufficient or need to be changed. Specifically groups will be asked to use the framework of “Retrofit, Reimagine, and Reform” (McLemore 2022).
 - Draft any revised objectives and/or tactics
 - Identify performance measures



Strategic Plan Action Plan Update - Next steps

- Goal to finalize updates by mid to late April
- Report drafted and reviewed by Task Force in Summer 2023
- Hiring a graphic designer
- Distribute through Task Force, MH partners, social media
 - Where else?



BREAK

Update on Survey of Birthing Services in Maryland



Inventory of Services for Birthing People in Maryland

This project aims to support the work of the Maternal Health Improvement Task Force to better understand the organizations, programs, and services that support the health and well-being of birthing people in Maryland.



Progress to Date

- **Feedback from MHIP Task Force** on 09/28/22 and 10/25/22
- With Co-Chairs and Equity Advisor, **drafted survey to be completed by Task Force members and partner organizations**



MHIP Birthing Services Survey

- Demographics and organization details
 - Zip code (to understand geographic location)
 - Type of organization/individual/entity
 - Geographical work areas
- Birthing services details
 - Types of services provided
 - Targeted life stage(s) for services
- Community engagement
 - How community is defined
 - How services are determined
 - How health equity is prioritized



Survey Next Steps

- Once version finalized, will send online survey to Task Force Members
- **Please complete, AND share with your networks!**



Next Steps



2023 quarterly meetings:

- April 25, 2023, 2:30-4:00pm
- July 25, 2023, 2:30-4:00pm
- October 24, 2023, 2:30-4:00pm