



Maryland Maternal Health Improvement Task Force Spring Quarterly Meeting

April 25, 2023



Housekeeping

- *If joining in-person:* Please sign in!
- *If joining virtually:* 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
 - Report out on BMHW events
- Update on Survey of Birthing Services in Maryland
- Progress on Maternal Health Strategic Action Plan Update
- Wrap up, next steps, and adjournment



Task Force Business

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.

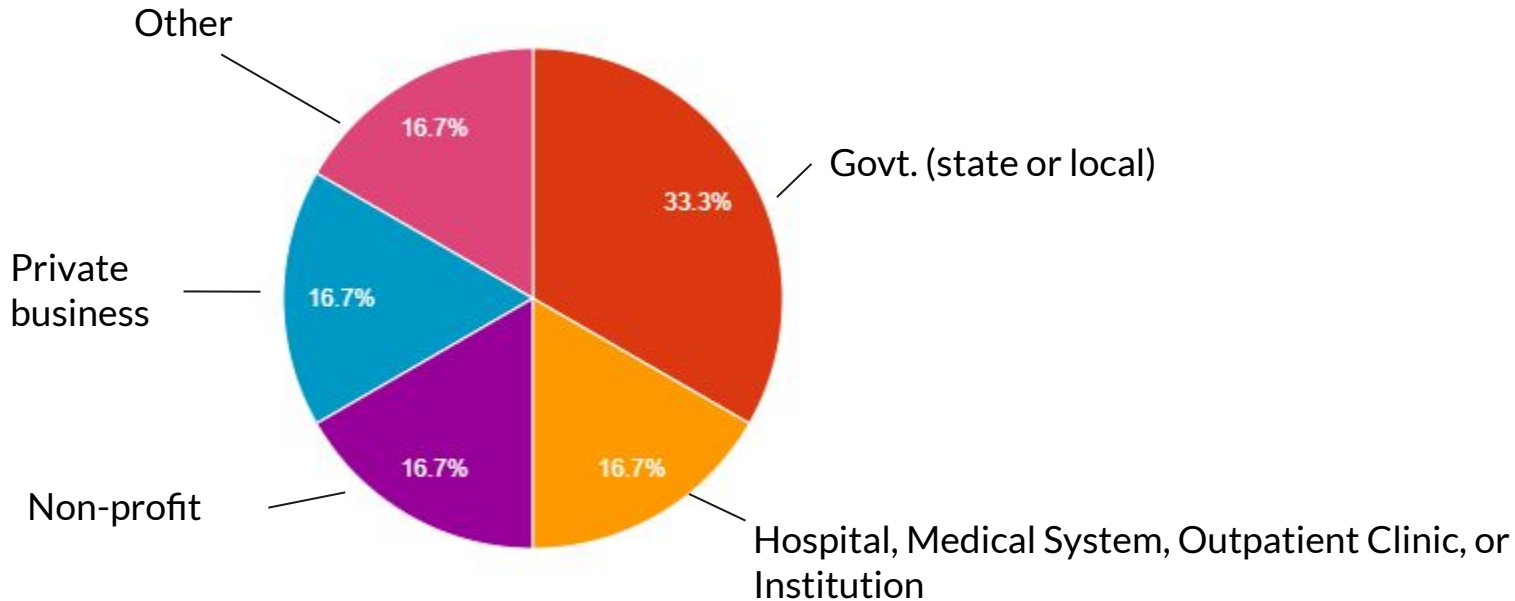


Progress to Date

- **Feedback from MHIP Task Force** on 09/28/22, 10/25/22, and 01/24/23
- **Launched survey to MHIP Task Force members** - March 2023



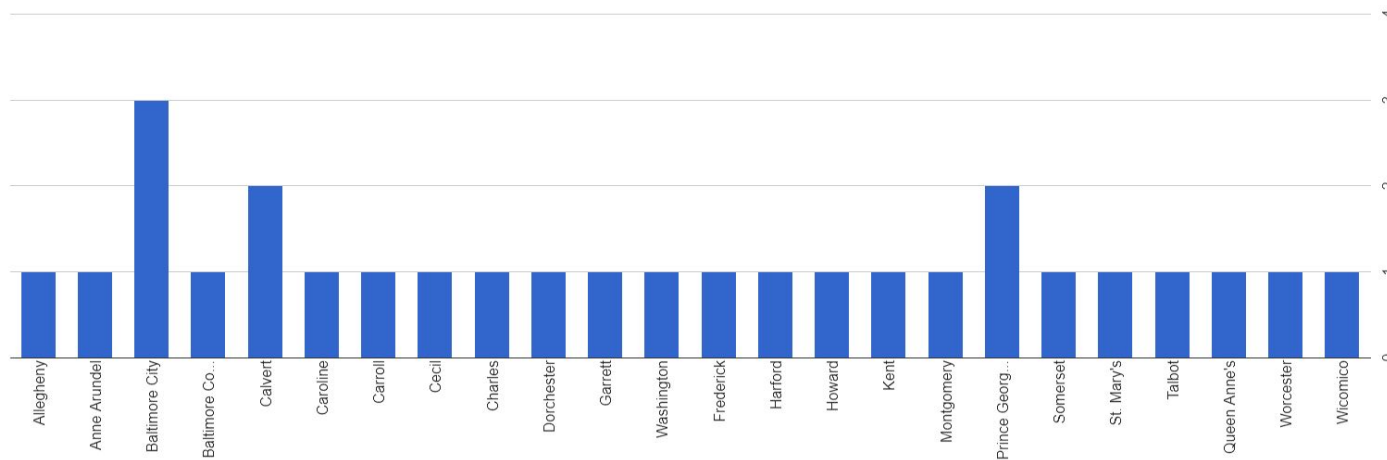
Preliminary analysis - Organization Type



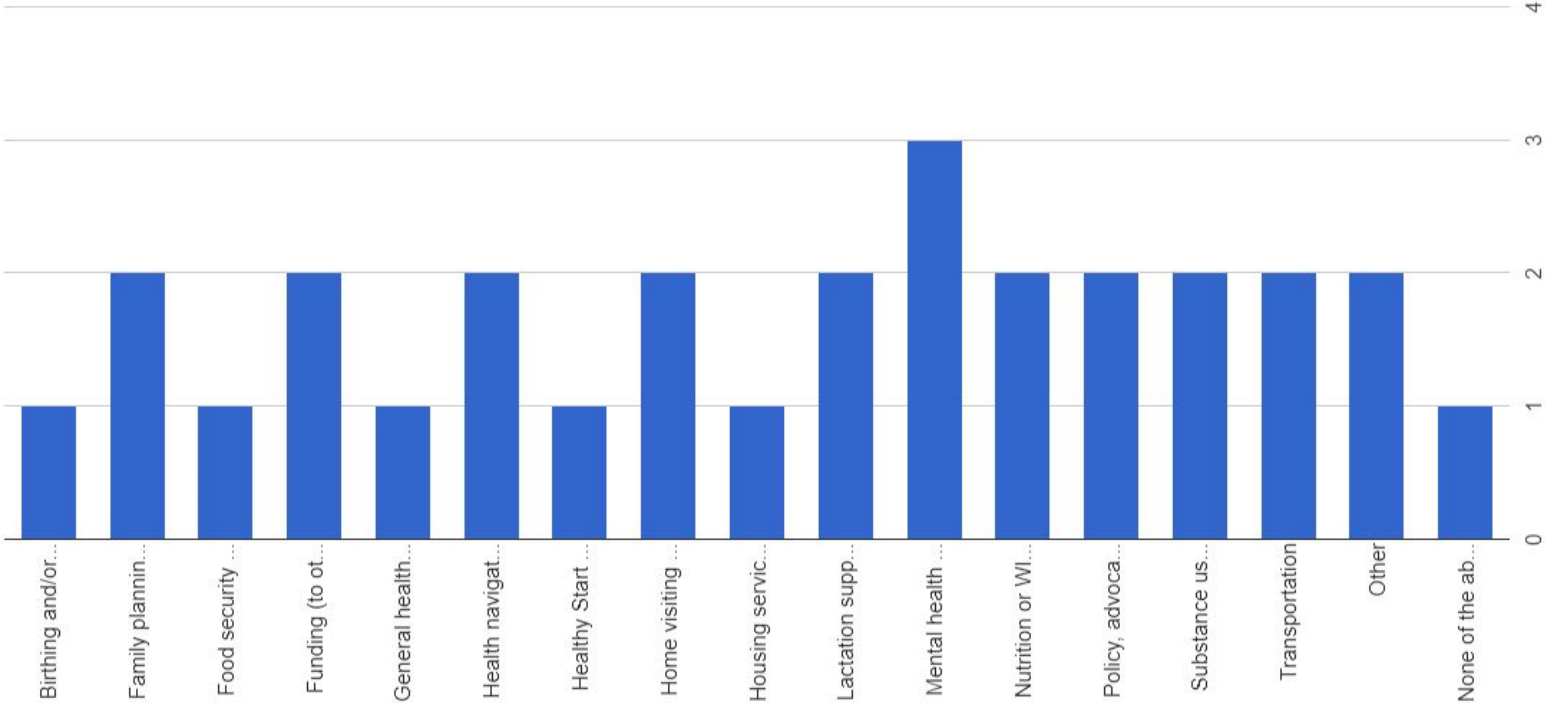
Preliminary analysis - Location of Work



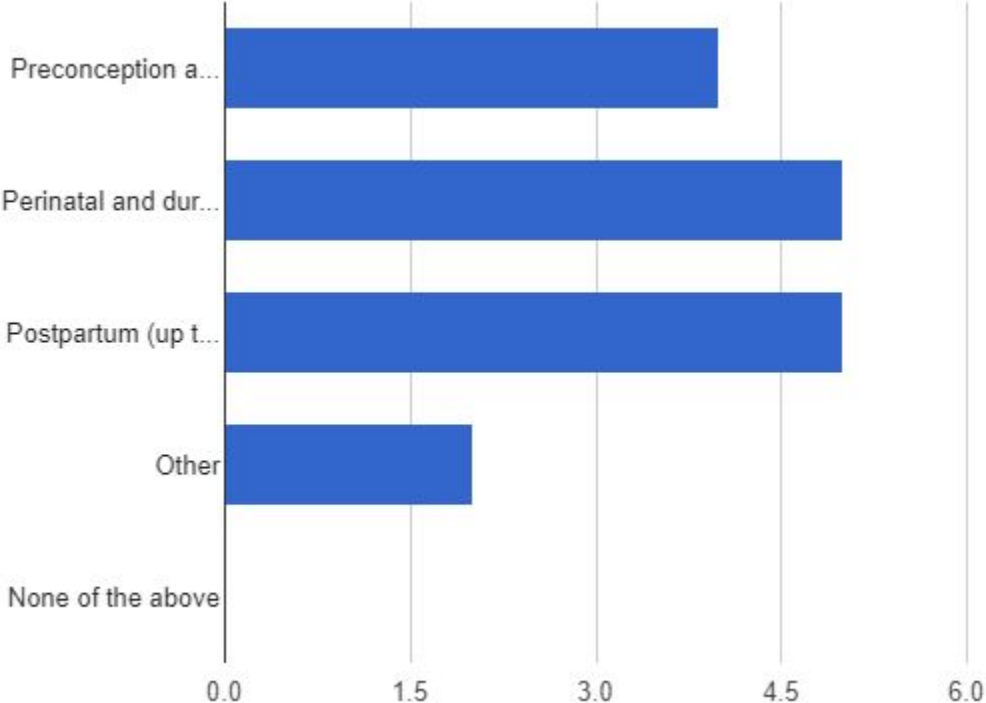
Location of work	Number (%)
Statewide	2 (33%)
Regional	6 (100%)



Preliminary analysis - Service Type



Preliminary analysis - Life Stage of Services





Survey Next Steps

- **Please complete, AND share with your networks!**



BREAK

Progress on Maternal Health Strategic Action Plan Update

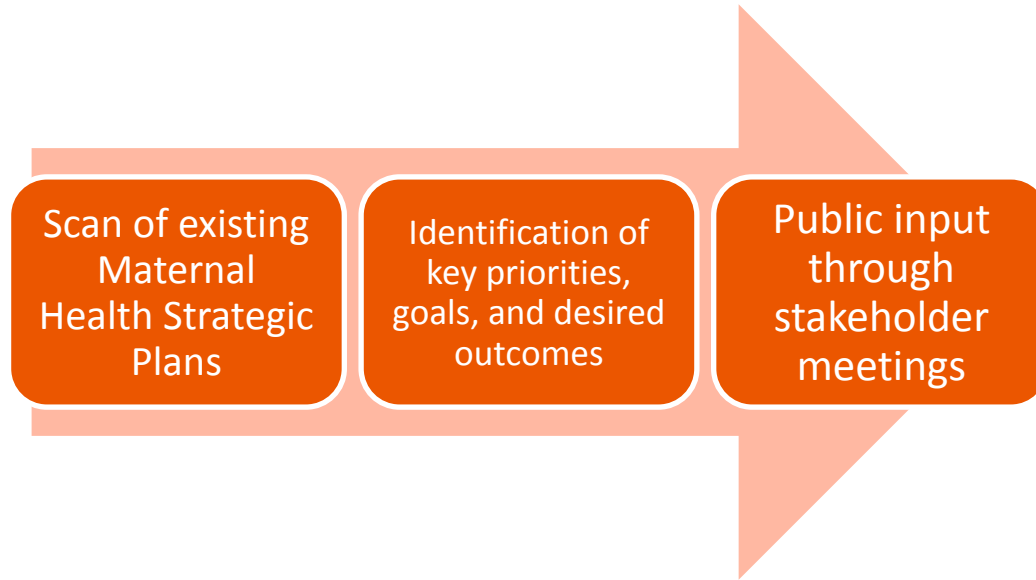


Overview of the Maryland Maternal Health Improvement Strategic Plan

- 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

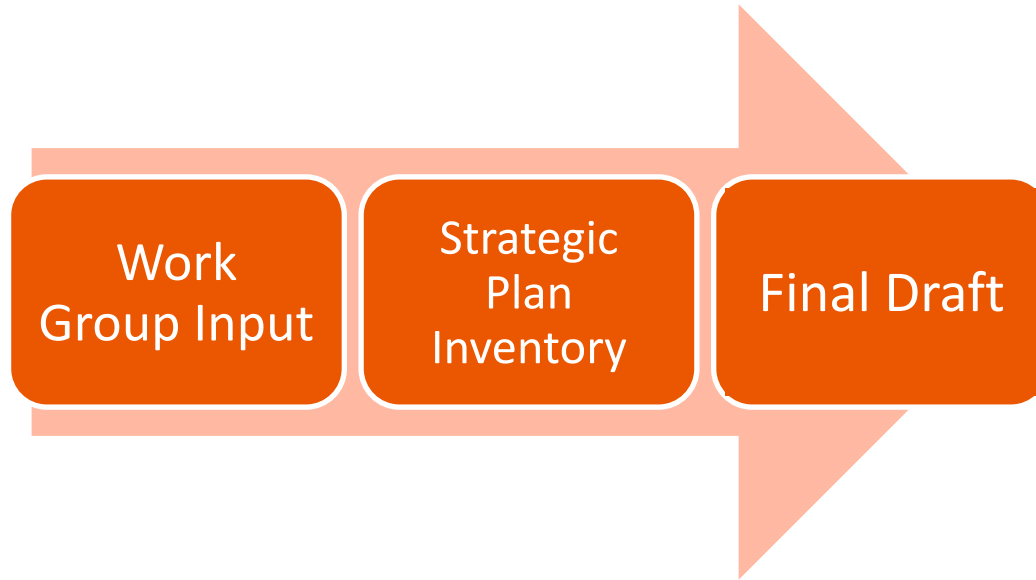


Strategic Plan: Development Process





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

- Update Plan to represent current priorities
- Task Force Work groups based on 5 strategic priorities



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



Work groups

Work Group 1: Equity and Anti-Racism	Work Group 2: Achieve Improved Health Using the Life Course Model	Work Group 3: Families and Communities	Work Group 4: Data	Work Group 5: Workforce
David Mann	Maxine Reed-Vance	Ashley Milcetic*	Gene Ransom	Clark Johnson
Traci La Valle	Cathy Costa	Elizabeth Chung	Ann Burke	Kristen Brooks*
Tracey DeShields*	Kristen Newman*		Stacey Iobst	
	Larry Polsky		Adriane Burgess*	
<i>*Point of contact</i>				



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?

Small Group Report Out



Work Group 1: Equity and Anti-Racism

Breaking into policy, services - policy component across many of these

Structural or personal level of actions - how can we engage across these levels

Beginning to discuss what structural things can focus on



Work Group 2: Achieve Improved Health Using the Life Course Model

- Will work to streamline the objectives and tactics, identify which are realistic for Task Force, which should be helmed by other groups
-



Work Group 3: Families and Communities

-



Work Group 4: Data

- Statistics lagging, hard to get real-time data
- Some lag is waiting for OGA approval
-



Work Group 5: Workforce

- Building out the workforce and identifying workforce development funds
 - Example of funding to build perinatal mental health training and workforce
- Education for students and trainees, intentionality about education in MCH, provide opportunities for training to workforce
 - Connecting with internships
- Alyson shared that PGCRC may be a site to be a resource for a variety of providers/professions who may be engaged in early childhood
- Understand who needs to be involved in this work, and current staffing levels/gaps
 - Housing should be engaged
- Find partners for dissemination - Maryland Health Equity Commission



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Next Steps



2023 quarterly meetings:

- **July 25, 2023, 2:30-4:00pm - Location TBD**
- **October 24, 2023, 2:30-4:00pm - Location TBD**