



Maryland Maternal Health Improvement Task Force Fall Quarterly Meeting

October 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
- Task Force Business
- Birthing Services Provider Map - Updates and Feedback
- 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** in 2022 and 2023 quarterly meetings
- **Summer 2023:** Continued to gather data and build out map layers
- **September 2023:** Met with JHU and Protiviti to discuss map frame, support with data collection



Layers included

Health Facility based services*

**Titles are not yet final!*

- Birthing hospitals
- Childbirth & family education services
- Community mental health centers
- Federally qualified health centers (FQHCs)
- Substance use treatment centers
- Lactation support
- Women, Infant, and Children (WIC) Clinics
- Centering Pregnancy Sites



Layers included

Community-based services*

**Titles are not yet final!*

- Healthy Start Programs
- Home Visiting Programs
- Local Health Departments
- Doula Services
- Support Groups
- Transportation Resources
- Maryland Infants & Toddlers Program (MITP)
- Housing Assistance Resources
- Domestic Violence Resources
- Food Resources

What **layers are missing** from
this map?



Next Steps

- **10/26/23**: Meeting with JHU and Protiviti to review wire frame

Maryland Black Perinatal Health and Reproductive Justice Summit



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: 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.



Strategic Plan: Priorities and Goals

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.



Planning for MDMOM 2.0 Task Force Activities

- Second phase of MDMOM funded:
<https://mchb.hrsa.gov/programs-impact/programs/state-mhi#award-recipients>
- Past Task Force activities include
 - Speakers
 - Graphic design or printing
 - Special projects

What **priorities** would the Task Force like to focus on for the second phase of MDMOM?



Next Steps



2024 quarterly meetings:

- **January 23, 2024, 2:30-4:00 pm - Location TBD**
- **April 23, 2024, 2:30-4:00 pm - Location TBD**
- **July 23, 2024, 2:30-4:00 pm - Location TBD**
- **October 22, 2024, 2:30-4:00 pm - Location TBD**