



July 2013

# PEP UPDATE

## Helping Hospitals Help Children Through Paternity Establishment

### A Message from Erin Frisch, Michigan Office of Child Support Director

Dear Michigan hospital staff,

Thank you for your continued efforts in helping Michigan's families to establish paternity!

I'm proud of our partnership with Michigan birthing hospitals in establishing paternity for Michigan children. The birth of a child is a "magic moment" for nearly all parents, whether they are married or not, and parents want the best for their new baby.



Early engagement of fathers through establishing paternity means the father has not only an ongoing legal responsibility to financially support the child but also a legal right to be emotionally involved in the child's life, which has a profound impact on the whole family. The child support program could not do our part in collecting \$1.4 billion each year without the support and hard work of birthing hospital staff.

I thank you for all you do!

**Erin Frisch, Director of the Michigan Office of Child Support**

### Amy Gilmore – Paternity Establishment Percentage (PEP) Liaison Contact

Amy Gilmore is the acting PEP Liaison working for the Department of Human Services. She is available to answer paternity establishment questions. Please feel free to contact her at 517-373-0275 or [DHS-OCS-PEP@michigan.gov](mailto:DHS-OCS-PEP@michigan.gov).



### New Electronic Death Registration System

A new system for registering death is being implemented by the Michigan Department of Community Health.

This web-based system is designed to improve the efficiency of death reporting by funeral directors and physicians while greatly increasing the timeliness of the data for administrative use.

With the new Electronic Death Registration System, death record data is available for administrative actions within a day or so after the death is entered into the system. This compares to a four-month delay in availability under the paper registration process. Although use of the system is voluntary, 64 counties have deployed the system and are using it to file an average of 75 percent of all deaths.

**Glenn Copeland, State Registrar for the Division for Vital Records and Health Statistics**

# Statistics

**Thanks to hospital staff, Michigan's statewide 2012 PEP performance number is 93.6%!**

The **Paternity Establishment Percentage (PEP)** for hospitals is the number of paternity establishments in a year divided by the number of born-out-of-wedlock births in the same year.

## Michigan's Top Performing PEP Hospitals in 2012

Hospitals (5 to 500 Unwed Births)	County	PEP %
Keweenaw Memorial Medical Center	Houghton	92%
Portage Hospital	Houghton	87%
Hospitals (501 to 1,000 Unwed Births)	County	PEP %
Munson Medical Center	Grand Traverse	80%
Genesys Health Park	Genesee	79%
Holland Community Hospital	Ottawa	79%
Hospitals (Over 1,000 Unwed Births)	County	PEP %
Bronson Methodist Hospital	Kalamazoo	71%
Hackley Hospital & Medical Center	Muskegon	71%

### Helpful Websites

#### Hospital Paternity Guide:

[http://www.michigan.gov/documents/dhs/PAT\\_ACK\\_Guide\\_June\\_2011\\_356774\\_7.pdf](http://www.michigan.gov/documents/dhs/PAT_ACK_Guide_June_2011_356774_7.pdf)

#### DNA Diagnostics Center (DDC):

<http://www.dnacenter.com/>

#### Offender Tracking Information System (OTIS):

<http://mdocweb.state.mi.us/otis2/otis2.html>



### Important Vital Records Contacts

Hospital staff can refer parents to the following Michigan Department of Community Health (MDCH) telephone numbers:

1. For general information or to get a vital record application, call 517-335-8656.
2. To speak with someone regarding a submitted application, call 517-335-8656.
3. For changes or corrections to a birth or death record, call 517-335-8660 or email [VRCustomerService@michigan.gov](mailto:VRCustomerService@michigan.gov). MDCH staff should reply by email within two business days.