



# MATERNAL INFANT HEALTH



## September is Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) Awareness Month

[Governor Gretchen Whitmer proclaimed September 30, 2020: Neonatal Intensive Care Unit \(NICU\) Awareness Day.](#)

NICU Awareness Day provides an opportunity for families whose lives have been affected by NICU experiences to share their story, to honor dedicated health professionals, and to meet and support others. This awareness day also provides visibility to conditions leading to NICU stays, as well as interventions that improve the quality of life for babies admitted to the NICU, NICU graduates, and their families.



[March of Dimes - NICU resources for moms, dads, grandparents & families:](#)

- Your baby's NICU stay
- Coping with stress in the NICU
- Feeding your baby in the NICU & after the NICU
- Common conditions, equipment & tests in the NICU
- Communicating with your baby's health care providers in the NICU
- Going home from the NICU & follow up medical care



[March of Dimes - Resources for NICU staff:](#)

- [Education for NICU families](#)
- [Education for hospital staff](#)
- [Resources to improve the patient and family experience](#)

## October is Infant Safe Sleep Awareness Month

Good night. Sleep tight. Sleep safe.

Learn more about the safest way for babies to sleep at [michigan.gov/safesleep](http://michigan.gov/safesleep)



Governor Gretchen Whitmer declared October 2020 Infant Safe Sleep Awareness Month calling attention to the importance of preventing sleep-related infant deaths. Most people think this would

never happen to them, but the sad reality is that a baby dies nearly every other day Michigan and these deaths are overwhelmingly preventable.

To keep babies safe, while sleeping at night and during naps, follow the [safe sleep guidelines](#) and learn more about [why they are recommended](#) to keep babies safe.

## October is also SIDS Awareness Month

To help spread the word, the [Safe to Sleep® Campaign](#) is encouraging organizations and individuals to participate in this year's [#SafeSleepSnap photo activity](#). The campaign is also hosting a [Safe Infant Sleep Social Media Block Party](#).

Take time to promote infant safe sleep in your community - educate your clients, friends and family. Join us and [learn how you can make a difference](#) in October, and all year long!

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## Mother Infant Health & Equity Improvement Plan - Year One Highlights



During the last year, many successes have improved the lives of mothers, infants and families in Michigan. [The Mother Infant Health & Equity Improvement Plan - Year One Highlights - 2020](#) was released in September 2020, giving a brief overview of the successes in maternal infant health statewide, and acknowledging the invaluable commitment of stakeholders.

Visit <https://www.michigan.gov/MIHEIP> to learn more about the [MIHEIP & Year One Highlights](#).

**[!! Sign Up for Maternal Infant Health Updates and Emails !!](#)**

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## Michigan's Safe Delivery Program



Safe Delivery is a law which allows a parent or parents to safely and legally surrender their newborn, no more than 3 days old. A newborn may be given to a uniformed employee who is inside and on duty at any hospital, fire department, police station, or to an emergency medical technician or paramedic by calling 9-1-1. The newborn will be placed for adoption. This program is safe, legal and confidential.

**Safe Delivery Hotline: 866-733-7733.**

For more information, please visit the [Safe Delivery of Newborns Law](#).  
[Visit Michigan Safe Delivery to order FREE posters, brochures, and pamphlets.](#)

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## Advancing Equity in Maternal Infant Health



**Hear Her** campaign seeks to raise awareness of potentially life-threatening warning signs during and after pregnancy and improve communication between patients and their healthcare providers.

**“A woman knows her body. Listening and acting upon her concerns during or after pregnancy could save her life.”**

— Dr. Wanda Barfield, Director of CDC's Division of Reproductive Health

Learn more about [pregnancy-related deaths](#) in the United States.  
Learn more about [Michigan Maternal Mortality](#).

### **March of Dimes 2020 Report: NOWHERE TO GO: Maternity Care Deserts Across the U.S.**

**Addressing Maternal Mortality**: this course will discuss the impact of implicit bias on maternal mortality and how biases can be addressed by health care providers.  
*1.50 CME/CNE/ACPE-P(T)/APA/ASWB/CCMC credit is available*



### **WEBINAR SERIES: Advancing Maternal Health**

- Breastfeeding Support and Oral Health
- Improving Maternal Health Outcomes: Addressing Opioid Use During Pregnancy
- Addressing Social Isolation and Loneliness in Women Across the Life Course
- Home Blood Pressure Monitoring to Improve Maternal Health

**For more information on maternal and infant health in Michigan visit:**  
**[Michigan.gov/MIHEIP](https://www.michigan.gov/MIHEIP)**

