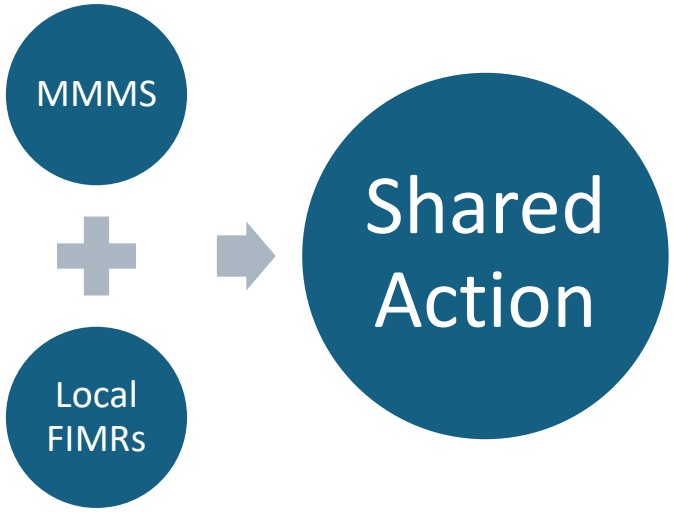
Michigan Maternal Mortality Surveillance (MMMS) and Fetal Infant Mortality Review (FIMR) Aligned Recommendations

Overview:
These Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) programs identified the critical recommendations and directly link the recommendations to the department.



Why Alignment Matters:
When recommendations from both review processes align, they point to systemic issues and opportunities that, if addressed, can significantly improve outcomes across the maternal and infant health continuum.

Data Overview:
In Fiscal Year 2024, MDHHS was listed as an actor in moving the recommendation forward for 162 FIMR recommendations and 101 MMMS recommendations. Recommendations from themes for action that aligned and that had the State as the actor are included in this data brief.

Improve Policies Regarding Systems of Care, Prevention Initiatives, Screening, and Treatment Programs
- 23 FIMR recommendations.
- 40 MMMS recommendations.

Improve Trainings and Education
- 31 FIMR recommendations.
- 27 MMMS recommendations.

Improve Access to Care
- 23 FIMR recommendations.
- 14 MMMS recommendations.

Improve Provider and Patient Communication
- 21 FIMR recommendations.
- 8 MMMS recommendations.

Address Social Determinants of Health
- 24 FIMR recommendations.
- 2 MMMS recommendations.

Improve Care Coordination and Provider to Provider Communication
- 8 FIMR recommendations.
- 7 MMMS recommendations.

Address Safety Concerns
- 10 FIMR recommendations.
- 2 MMMS recommendations.

For more information about the aligned analysis methodology, please visit MMMS and FIMR aligned recommendations.

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Improve polices regarding systems of care, prevention initiatives, screening, and treatment programs

"Provision of grief resources specifically for situations related to birth trauma."

Promote grief and bereavement resources for those who've experienced a loss including tragic/sudden.

State Action

To address the critical need to provide linkages to ongoing support of grieving families, communities and care providers, MDHHS partnered with Michigan 2-1-1 to develop a Grief and Bereavement feature webpage for anyone to be connected to resources in their area. Additionally, a free, on-demand, online Bereavement Training for Maternal and Child Health Professionals was developed to address the need for how to support bereaved families. These projects were created with a grant from the Michigan Health Endowment Fund.

Improve Trainings and Education

"Educate medical personnel about doula services so they may effectively recommend doulas to patients."

Encourage providers and hospital discharge planners to partner with doulas, community health workers, family support professionals, and home visiting programs to improve access to care and provide peer support to pregnant and parenting women.

State Action

The MDHHS Doula Initiative aims to support Michigan doulas and families. In January 2023, Michigan Medicaid began reimbursing for doula services provided to individuals covered by or eligible for Medicaid Insurance. Through the Doula Initiative, a doula can be found by location on the Doula Registry. Additionally, there are webinars, trainings and continuing education for doulas. For more information, visit Michigan.gov/Doula.

Improve Access to Care

"Find ways for prenatal care to connect with rehab/substance use facilities to provide care."

Increase provider education (physician, nurses, etcetera) on substance use disorders, provider resources (checklists, conversation tools, etcetera), and resources for patients.

State Action

The Care for Pregnant and Postpartum People with Substance Use Disorder bundle, part of the AIM initiative, focuses on improving outcomes through universal screening, compassionate care, and connection to treatment and recovery services. The MMMS supported Region One Perinatal Quality Collaborative in piloting this bundle in Michigan's Upper Peninsula.

How Partners Can Use the Report and Recommendations

Look at specific recommendations that you could implement in your region.

As a resource to inform your local improvement plans/initiatives.

To raise awareness and educate decision makers.

For more information on Fetal Infant Mortality Review, please visit: Michigan.gov/FIMR.

For more information on Michigan Maternal Mortality Surveillance, please visit: Michigan.gov/MMMS.

For questions and requests, please contact Heidi Neumayer, Preventable Mortality Epidemiologist, NeumayerH@michigan.gov.

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