

Weekly Update

Maternal Infant Health Program



**Please share this information with all
MIHP team members.**

Monday, October 11, 2021

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Reminder—Free Birth and Baby Class

As shared in the September 20th edition of the MIHP Weekly Update, the Southwest Michigan Perinatal Quality Improvement Collaborative (SWMPQIC) still has approximately 250 remaining slots in an online platform that includes nine free classes on birth and baby. These classes include topics on pregnancy, birth and Cesarean birth, breastfeeding, fatherhood, infant and child safety, mother and baby care, multiples, and newborns. These online classes can be done on the participant's own time, at their own pace, and can be returned to as often as needed for nine months after creating the account. Please share with your families.

Directions and the code to create a free account are on the [attached flyer](#). Accounts are available in either English or in Spanish but must be accessed for the first time by October 20th, so please share this great opportunity widely!

[SWMPQIC Injoy eClass Flyer.pdf](#)

Safe Sleep Awareness Month: Week 2

Week 2 reminders and tips:

A firm, flat mattress in a clutter-free crib, bassinet, or play yard will reduce your baby's risk of sleep-related causes of death. Check out these #safesleep tips at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OvLsgXH69rc> #safesleepmonth #safesleepsaveslives

Good night. Sleep tight. Sleep safe.

Learn more about the safest way for babies to sleep at michigan.gov/safesleep



RSV Awareness Month



October is RSV Awareness Month, and the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) is encouraging everyone to take steps to prevent the spread of respiratory syncytial virus (RSV). RSV is a respiratory virus that usually peaks in the winter, however, this year RSV activity has been higher than expected across the state through the summer and early fall which is also trending across the country.

Each year in the United States, RSV leads to approximately 2.1 million outpatient visits and 58,000 hospitalizations among children under five years of age. There are approximately 177,000 hospitalizations and 14,000 deaths among adults over age 65.

RSV is highly contagious and spreads through droplets in the air after a cough or sneeze. In adults and older children, symptoms of RSV are usually mild and may mimic a cold. RSV can cause severe infection in some people, including infants and young children, older adults, people with heart and lung disease or people who are immunocompromised. Individuals with cold-like symptoms should not interact with children and other individuals at high risk for RSV.

It's important to call your child's health care provider right away if your child has any of the following signs or symptoms:

- A cold and is less than six months of age or at high risk for RSV.
- Difficulty breathing:
 - Short, shallow and fast breaths.
 - Skin between ribs or under the neck pulls with each breath.
- Lips, tongue or skin color turns blue or gray.
- Trouble eating, drinking or sleeping.
- Gets dehydrated (decreased number of wet diapers).

“It is possible to take simple measures to protect your child from RSV,” said Dr. Natasha Bagdasarian, MDHHS chief medical executive. “Avoid close contact with people who are unwell, wash hands often, cover sneezes, avoid touching your face with your hands and frequently disinfect surfaces.”

Take simple steps in addition to those listed above help prevent the spread of RSV:

- Keep children home when sick.
- Avoid close contact actions like kissing, handshakes, sharing cups and utensils.
- Clean frequently touched surfaces such as doorknobs, toys and mobile devices.

In addition to children, [older adults](#) can be at risk for severe RSV infection. Symptoms are similar to those listed above, but can develop into serious conditions like pneumonia.

Most RSV illness goes away on its own and there is no specific treatment for RSV. If you or a loved one becomes infected, it's important to monitor fever and pain, drink fluids and talk to your health care provider if you have any concerns.

This year, it is especially important to take precautions as COVID-19 continues to circulate and shares many similar symptoms of RSV, including fever and breathing difficulties. Michiganders are urged to see their health care provider if symptoms develop for appropriate evaluation, testing and treatment.

For more information about RSV, visit [CDC.gov/RSV](https://www.cdc.gov/RSV).

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[RSV Month Press Release.pdf](#)

Rural Child Care Innovation Program

First Children's Finance is seeking applications for its Rural Child Care Innovation Program (RCCIP). Six (6) Michigan communities will be chosen to participate in a community engagement process designed to address rural child care shortages. **Applications will be accepted from October 1, 2021 – October 29, 2021.**

Child care is an economic driver for rural communities across Michigan, but many communities are facing shortages of high quality child care. Funded by the MI Department of Education, First Children's Finance's Rural Child Care Innovation Program (RCCIP) is an innovative community engagement process designed to increase the supply of quality, affordable child care in rural communities.

The purpose of RCCIP is to guide communities in identifying the scope and size of their child care challenges, and to empower and support communities to develop solutions to address these challenges.

Communities with identified child care challenges impacting the economic health of their community should consider submitting an application to the Rural Child Care Innovation Program. Child care shortages have a broad impact beyond the family, and communities need to address these issues with right-sized solutions that meet their unique needs.

Register for the upcoming informational Zoom meeting, which will be held on **October 12 at 12:00 PM EST** to learn more about First Children's Finance and the Rural Child Care Innovation Program. To learn more about this important initiative to address rural child care in Michigan visit the RCCIP Website.

- [Download RCCIP Application](#)
- [RCCIP Online Application](#)
- [Zoom Meeting - Register Here](#)
- [RCCIP Website](#)

If you have additional questions during the application process, please contact [James Henderson](#), Michigan Director, via email or 248-270-0257.



Focus on Fathers



FOCUS ON FATHERS

**A Short Survey on Working with Fathers
in the Infant and Early Childhood Field**



**Help us understand the benefits and barriers to engaging fathers
and enter for a chance to win a \$25 Amazon gift card!**

Attention IECMH-informed professionals!

Please consider completing the following 10-minute survey on engaging the fathers of infants and young children in your work. We will use the results to inform the development of IECMH trainings on fatherhood.

[Click here to access the survey!](#)

This survey was developed by Carolyn Dayton at Wayne State University and Shawna Lee at the University of Michigan.

Coordinator Directory

[Click here to access the Coordinator Directory](#)

Topic Submission

If you have suggestions for topics to be addressed in future additions of the MIHP Weekly Update, [please submit your ideas here](#).

Previously Released MIHP Weekly Updates

To review any previously released MIHP Weekly Updates, they can be found by visiting the MIHP webpage Michigan.gov/MIHP or [by clicking here](#).

Our communication for the Maternal Infant Health Program has been streamlined to a single email address and phone number. Please forward all email to MIHP@michigan.gov. For further assistance, contact the state office @ **1-833-MI4-MIHP (1-833-644-6447)**. Thank you.
