

# Weekly Update

## Maternal Infant Health Program



Please share this information with all  
MIHP team members.

Monday, October 25, 2021

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# Delayed Weekly Update Distribution

Due to a system error, last week's MIHP Weekly Update was not sent out until Wednesday. We apologize for the delay.

## Meet The Team: Connie Frantz



Hi! I'm Connie Frantz. I've supported the Maternal Infant Health Program for the past 10 years as a Departmental Analyst. I'm proud to be part of the MIHP team and the transformative work being done by MIHP.

Previously, I worked as a pharmaceutical sales representative and as a program coordinator for a technology-based training compliance and clinical rotations program. My background also includes job coaching, recruitment, and placement. I graduated from Spring Arbor University with a Master of Arts in Organizational Management and a Bachelor of Arts in Management of Human Resources.

My personal passion includes helping my community meet the needs of individuals in transition such as displaced individuals, veterans, and individuals entering the job market. A personal goal of mine is to focus on health equity and quality improvement.

I grew up in Alpena and now reside in Lansing. I love to go rock hunting on the beaches of Michigan in the summer and collect coins in the winter. I have shared my home with several rescue cats in need of a loving home and currently share my home with my 2-year-old cat, Thor. I enjoy feeding the neighborhood birds and critters.

It's nice to meet you and I look forward to supporting all of you in the important work you do for our MIHP communities.

## Safe Sleep Awareness Month: Week 4

As we conclude Safe Sleep Awareness Month, check out the week 4 highlighted reminder:

Breastfeeding reduces the risk of sleep-related causes of infant death. If you bring baby into your bed to #breastfeed, be sure to follow #safesleep when finished. <https://youtu.be/TwEU44FEGJU> #safesleepmonth #safetosleep Not on social media? That's okay. Learn how else you can make a difference in October, and all year long!

If you have any questions about infant safe sleep, please contact the Infant Safe Sleep Program at [MDHHS-InfantSafeSleep@michigan.gov](mailto:MDHHS-InfantSafeSleep@michigan.gov) or go to [Michigan.gov/SafeSleep](http://Michigan.gov/SafeSleep).

Good night. Sleep tight. Sleep safe.

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



## MDHHS Urges Getting Flu Vaccine



*October 19, 2021 Press Release:*

The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) is urging Michiganders to get their flu vaccine as soon as possible to protect themselves and their communities from flu especially while continuing to battle COVID-19.

Getting a flu vaccine is critical this season because flu viruses and the virus that causes COVID-19 will likely be spreading simultaneously. Importantly, residents are able to get their COVID-19 vaccine at the same time as their flu vaccine. [According to the CDC](#), those who are at higher risk for contracting flu are also at a higher risk for contracting COVID-19. Vaccinations for both COVID-19 and the flu are safe, effective strategies to protect ourselves and our communities from illness.

“I encourage every Michigander to get their flu shot as soon as possible to protect themselves and their loved ones,” said Governor Gretchen Whitmer. “Last year, 3.5 million Michiganders got flu shots, and this year, I know that we can meet MDHHS’s statewide goal by bringing that number up to 4 million. Over the last 18 months, we’ve all seen just how critical vaccines are to keeping people safe from disease, and I want to thank every Michigander who has received their COVID-19 vaccine and flu shot. I have been fully vaccinated for COVID-19 and received my flu shot last week, and I hope you do too.”

The flu vaccine is the best way to reduce risk from the seasonal flu and its potential serious complications. Each year flu vaccination [reduces the burden of influenza](#) significantly in the United States preventing millions of illnesses and thousands of hospitalizations and deaths.

Last flu season, approximately 3.5 million people in Michigan received a flu vaccine as reported to the Michigan Care Improvement Registry (MCIR). The state has set a goal of vaccinating a total of 4 million Michiganders for the 2021-2022 flu season.

“Everyone aged 6 months and up is recommended to receive a flu vaccination with rare exceptions, and we encourage them to do so as soon as possible,” said Dr. Natasha Bagdasarian, MDHHS chief medical executive. “There is an ample supply of flu vaccine available in many convenient locations from primary care providers to local pharmacies. We know these vaccines are safe and they protect vulnerable Michiganders.”

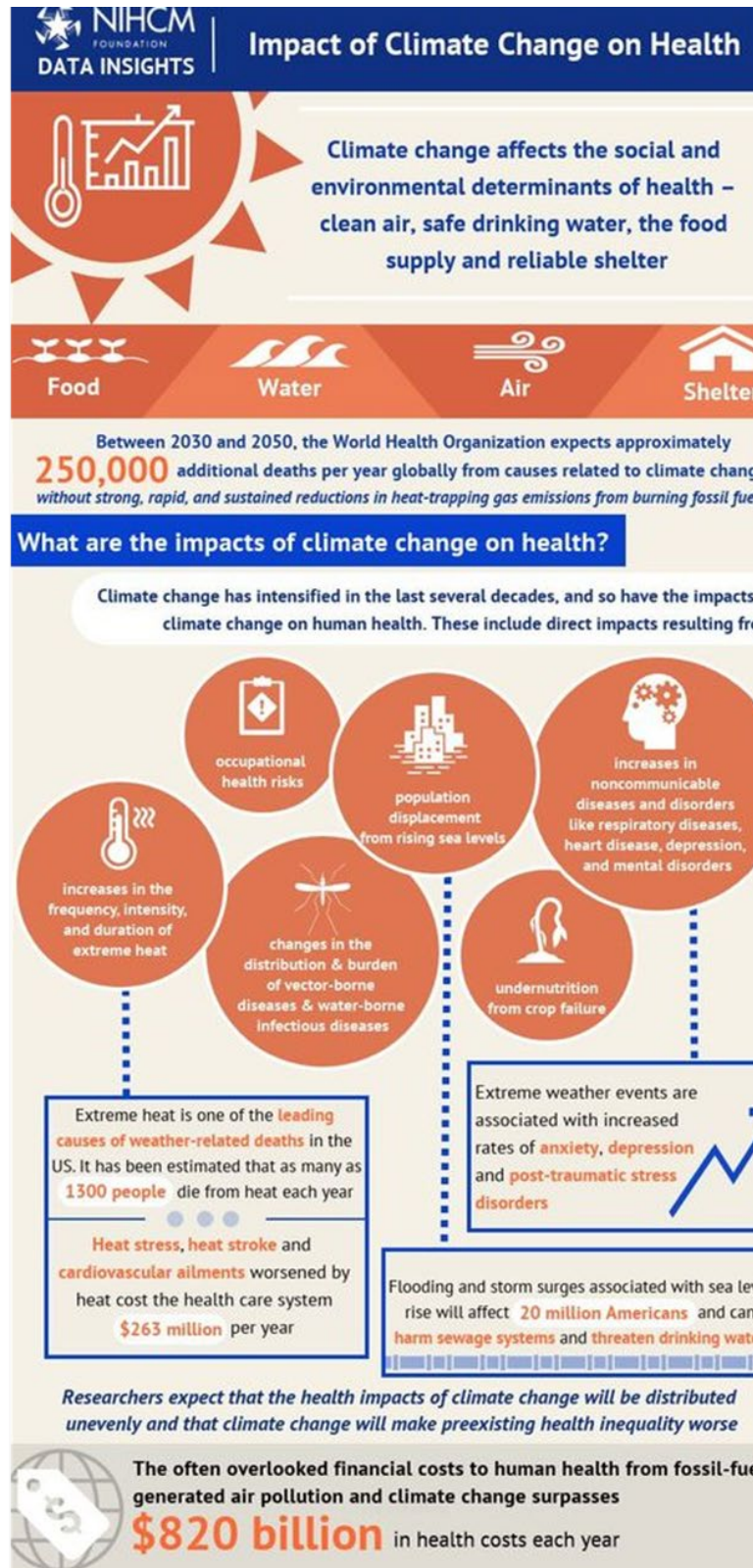
The 2020-2021 flu season was unique in many ways, resulting in historically low flu activity for the entire season. Public health professionals indicate that community mitigation measures related to the COVID-19 pandemic such as masking and social distancing and influenza vaccination could have contributed to the below average amount of influenza cases last season.

However, during a typical flu season like the 2019-2020 flu season, the nation recorded [39 to 56 million estimated cases of the flu](#), 18 to 26 million medical visits due to the flu and nearly half a million flu hospitalizations. Despite its comparison to the common cold, the flu is a very serious and potentially deadly disease, especially for children, older people and people with chronic health conditions.

Flu vaccines are available now at local health departments, physician offices and pharmacies around the state. Find a location near you using the [Vaccine Finder](#). Visit [Michigan.gov/flu](https://Michigan.gov/flu) for more information or visit [Vaccinate.org](https://Vaccinate.org) to find answers to your vaccine questions.

[Flu Vaccine Press Release.pdf](#)

# Impact of Climate Change on Health



## Who is at risk for the health risks associated with climate change?

**Every American** faces a health risk associated with climate change. Many people, however, are more vulnerable than others.

### Some people have a higher exposure

#### Low-income populations

generations of targeted disinvestment and environmental injustice have increased exposure to climate change threats particularly in low-income Black, Latino, and Native American communities

#### Occupational groups

people who work outdoors like first responders and construction workers face more frequent and longer exposure to climate change threats

#### People in specific locations

certain populations are more likely to be exposed to climate change threats like fires, droughts, floods or severe storms

### Some people are more sensitive to the changing climate



### Some people experience more barriers than others



## What can be done to slow climate change and protect health?

*Integrating public health measures to tackle climate disruption cannot be an afterthought, health considerations must be incorporated into national & global resilience strategies.*

Promote sustainable diets and food systems	Prepare the health care system to handle new and emerging diseases & infections
Create more walkable, bikeable and transit friendly communities	Strengthen peer-to-peer support networks and human connections
Enforce strong policies around air, water and soil pollution & clean up	Improve water, sanitation and providing point-of-use disinfection tools
Work with vulnerable communities to promote resilience & connect them to resources	Partner with industry & government to prioritize systems that value human well-being



*There should be a constant push for more research on how to protect health in the age of climate change*

Climate change is the single biggest health threat facing humanity and it is disproportionately felt by the most vulnerable and disadvantaged people, according to a recent World Health Organization [special report](#). Climate change is affecting global weather patterns and weather variability is only increasing, causing a greater number of heat waves and floods that are far more extreme and last far longer.

These changes are collectively increasing the number of injuries, illnesses, and deaths from a wide range of climate-sensitive health outcomes. Future health risks will be determined not just by the hazards created by a changing climate, but also by the sensitivity of individuals and communities exposed to these hazards and the capacity of health systems to prepare for them. These risks are [unevenly distributed](#), creating new inequities and exacerbating those that already existed.

[To download the infographic please click here.](#)

## 2020 Home Visiting Report Available

The 2020 Michigan Home Visiting report is now available on the [Michigan Home Visiting Initiative website](#). This legislative report is mandated under Public Act 291 of 2012 and contains information and statistics on all of the home visiting programs in Michigan, including MIHP. We encourage you to review the report and share with your networks and colleagues.

## New Feature: Link to Publications

We will have a link to the MDHHS Communications subscription web page on every MIHP Weekly Update issue for your convenience. You and your staff can sign up for any or all of the publications and program updates, including the Weekly Update and other maternal and infant health publications. Be sure to use the link if you have email changes or add agency staff.

[Sign up here to receive program updates and communications.](#)

# Coordinator Directory

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

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## Topic Submission

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

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## 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](http://Michigan.gov/MIHP) or [by clicking here](#).

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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](mailto:MIHP@michigan.gov). For further assistance, contact the state office @ **1-833-MI4-MIHP (1-833-644-6447)**. Thank you.