

MIHP Biweekly Update

February 27, 2023



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New Pregnancy Support App Announced

MIHP has added an additional option to the approved list of phone applications (apps). This app is called Pregnancy+ and is free for smart devices. The app provides pregnancy tracking, articles, and support to pregnant people and their families. Pregnancy+ can be downloaded on Apple and Android devices. For users who live in Michigan and are enrolled in Medicaid, the app provides Michigan-specific resources and links to further support. The app was tailored to make it easier to access programs such as home visiting, immunizations, mental health information and more. An article on the partnership to tailor this app for Michigan families was [featured here](#). Additional information on the Pregnancy+ app can be [found here](#).

UPDATED AND NEW MIHP DOCUMENTS

- The [MIHP List of Approved Phone Applications](#) document has been updated to reflect this addition and is posted on our [Parent/Family Resources](#)
- MDHHS MIHP developed a new handout for beneficiaries that includes all four education tools: the Education Packet, Pregnancy+, Text4Baby, and What to Expect. The handout includes direct links for those viewing electronically as well as QR codes for those viewing the handout in printed form. This resource is titled [MIHP Educational Tools](#) and is also posted on the [Parent/Family Resources](#) Providers may wish to consider including this handout in their Welcome Packet.

Translated Education Packets Available

The updated MIHP Pregnancy and Infant Health Education Packet is now available in Spanish and Arabic. They are posted on the [Parent/Family Resources](#) page and the direct links are provided below:

- [Spanish](#)
 - [Spanish, Black/White & No Images](#)
- [Arabic](#)
 - [Arabic, Black/White & No Images](#)

Website Update, New Promotional Resources

A new web page is now available on the MIHP website: [MIHP Promotional Materials](#). This web page can be accessed from the “Communications” main page and it currently includes the following:

- Social media images promoting MIHP
 - Providers are encouraged to use these images in public messaging such as social media.
- Logo permission request
 - This has been **moved from its previous location on the Policy & Operations website.**
- MIHP Information Sheets and Customization
 - The customization request has been **moved from its previous location on the Policy & Operations website.**

Feel free to check it out! As additional promotional materials become available, the web page will be updated accordingly.



Michigan Department of Health & Human Services

Michigan WIC transitions back to Similac brand formulas March 1

Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Feb. 1, 2023

CONTACT: Lynn Sutfin, 517-241-2112, SutfinL1@michigan.gov

Michigan WIC transitions back to Similac brand formulas March 1

LANSING, Mich. – The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services has announced that the Michigan Women, Infants & Children (WIC) program is transitioning back to its contract for Similac brand formulas starting Wednesday, March 1, as supply chain issues have been resolved.

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Food and Nutrition Service is ending its flexibility of providing non-contract formula effective Tuesday, Feb. 28. States had been allowed to provide clients access to infant formula brands outside of state contracts as the nation faced infant formula shortages due to a recall.

“It is USDA’s expectation that these extensions of flexibilities for non-contract formulas will be the final extensions, barring a significant change in the status of formula supply and availability,” said Christina Herring, WIC director. “We will continue to monitor availability of infant formula, along with our federal partners, to ensure WIC participants have access to nutrition for their babies.”

This expectation is based on Abbott’s recent production levels and its ability to supply sufficient stock of Similac product for the WIC market. USDA will continue to work with Abbott, the Food and Drug Administration and other stakeholders to monitor Similac product availability for WIC participants. If significant changes in Similac production or availability occur, USDA will engage Abbott and share any updates to this timeline with WIC state agencies.

Starting March 1, Michigan WIC will return to the following Similac WIC contract formulas:

- Similac Advance
- Similac Total Comfort
- Similac Sensitive
- Similac Isomil Soy

WIC clients and vendors will start receiving notification of this upcoming change beginning today.

WIC is a nutrition program provides nutritious foods, nutrition education, breastfeeding support and referrals to other community programs to improve and support clients' health and well-being. To learn more about WIC or to find an agency near you, visit Michigan.gov/WIC or call 211.

[WIC program News Release.pdf](#)



Celebrating Black History Month Around African Americans' Contribution to Vaccines

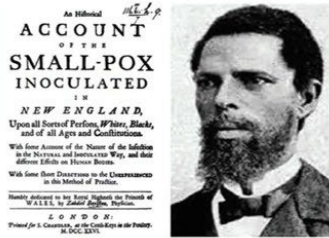
Every February, the U.S. honors the contributions and sacrifices of African Americans who have helped shape the nation. Black History Month celebrates the rich cultural heritage, triumphs and adversities that are an indelible part of our country's history. One area that tends to go unnoticed around impactful influences from people of color is their contribution to vaccines. Today, some of the leading scientists working in vaccinology are Black researchers and healthcare professionals.

Let's take a journey through history, to help honor and celebrate black history month around vaccine collaboration:

1700- Onesimus, an enslaved black man whose birth name is unknown, introduced the idea of smallpox inoculation to America

1940- Loney Clinton Gordon, a Michigan grown woman, was one of three women to develop the Tdap vaccine.

1950- Henrietta Lack's cancer cells, collected without her knowledge, have contributed to countless medical advances including the polio vaccine, HPV vaccine & COVID-19 vaccine



1990- Before Dr. Mae C. Jemison was the first Black astronaut in space, she worked on vaccine research at the CDC

Currently- Dr. Kizzmekia Corbett leads the NIH team that created one of the COVID-19 vaccines.



[Celebrating Black History Month Around African Americans' Contribution to Vaccines PDF](#)

Black History Month 2023: NICHQ Celebrates Black Health and Resistance

Celebrate [#BlackHistory](#), [#BlackResistance](#), and [#BlackHealth](#) with NICHQ!

[View Resources](#)

In celebration of this year's official Black History Month theme, [Black Resistance](#), we join others to uplift and build on the incredible work of Black medical professionals who worked with others to establish nursing schools, hospitals, and clinics in order to provide spaces for Black people to get quality healthcare.

The importance of understanding our nation's exploitative history and its impact on modern-day inequities cannot be overstated. Read more from the American Academy of Pediatrics about [Why Conversations About Race Matter](#) and the effects of conversation on patient care.

NICHQ is committed to honoring the incredible work of Black health practitioners as we work to address and eliminate disparities in maternal and child health and eliminate medical racism.

[Resources for Professionals](#)

This course from Restoring Our Own Through Transformation (ROOTT) and the Healthy Start Technical Assistance and Support Center (TASC) examines how policy development and institutional systems have created health inequities that oppress Black families in the maternal & infant health space and beyond.

[Watch Training](#)



MDHHS launches hotline for seasonal farmworkers to get bilingual information about COVID vaccines, other health matters

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Feb. 21, 2023

MEDIA CONTACT: Bob Wheaton, 517-241-2112, WheatonB@michigan.gov

MDHHS launches hotline for seasonal farmworkers to get bilingual information about COVID vaccines, other health matters

LANSING, Mich. – A new bilingual hotline makes it easier for Michigan’s migrant workers and their families to get information about the COVID-19 vaccine and other health-related matters.

The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) Office of Migrant Affairs is launching the toll-free number, 1-833-SIAYUDA (1-833-742-9832). *Si ayuda* means “yes help” or “yes assistance” in Spanish.

More than two-thirds of the approximately 90,000 migrant and seasonal farmworkers and their family members in Michigan have limited English language proficiency, which may prevent them from getting access to COVID-19 vaccines and treatment. That’s according to the University of Michigan’s 2023 study “Fair Housing Access, Affordability, and Quality for Michigan Farmworkers During the COVID-19 Pandemic and Beyond.”

“We aim to make health care in Michigan client-centered, which includes providing information in the person’s primary language when available to ensure timely health services,” said Dwayne Haywood, senior deputy director of the MDHHS Economic Stability Administration. “The Farmworker Hotline is a translation tool to help keep farmworkers healthy and reduce health-related work absences that could result in loss of earnings needed to support their families.”

Farmworkers are a vital part of Michigan’s annual \$104.7 billion food and agricultural industry. The hotline will expedite COVID-19-related services to Michigan’s migrant and seasonal farmworkers, including food processing workers, dairy workers and nursery/greenhouse workers.

The MDHHS Farmworker Hotline – which is funded by the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention – will be answered by MDHHS Migrant Affairs’ staff who are fluent in both Spanish and English. Migrant Affairs staff will answer vaccine questions and connect farmworkers to vaccination clinics and resources, make appropriate referrals to local offices, and provide other MDHHS program information based upon farmworker inquiries.

For farmworker calls in languages other than English and Spanish, a translation service will be available. MDHHS has translation services policy and contracts in place statewide to provide state-of-the-art health care to Michigan residents.

Ultimately, the goal of the MDHHS Farmworker Hotline is to help Michigan provide bilingual residents with tools to prevent disease, improve health outcomes and increase well-being. Hotline information distribution is being provided to all Michigan local offices serving migrant and seasonal farmworkers, partner agencies, and through social media.

Find more details at www.michigan.gov/migrantaffairs or www.michigan.gov/help4migrants.

[Farmworker Hotline Press Release.pdf](#)

Michigan Breastfeeding Network Webinar

The Michigan Breastfeeding Network is pleased to announce the next webinar in their series.

[Register here](#) for this free, on-demand webinar.

Topic: 10 Steps is Just the Beginning: Infusing Equity into Baby-Friendly

Presenter: Tameka Jackson-Dyer, BASc, IBCLC, CHW

Description: Implementation of the 10 Steps to Breastfeeding Success and Baby-Friendly certification has been proven to increase inpatient breastfeeding rates and continued human milk feeding post-discharge, but racial disparities persist. Ensuring that along with the standard messaging and processes, all women and birthing people receive the same level of care and access to lactation support is necessary to close these gaps. Partnering with grassroots organizations and collaborating with community leaders can create innovative ways to meet the needs of marginalized groups without altering the foundations of Baby-Friendly practices.

Objectives:

- Learn the ten steps of the Baby-Friendly initiative
- Consider the ways that culture of origin impacts the reception of the ten steps
- Examine how equitable practices can boost the adoption of the ten steps

Approved for 1 L-CERP, nurse's contact hour, 1 social work CE hour, 1 dietitian CPEU, 1 Community Health Worker CEU, 1 Certified Health Education Specialist CECH, and 1 CME until February 19, 2024.



Join Us for Mother Infant Health & Equity Collaborative Meetings

The purpose of the quarterly Mother Infant Health and Equity Collaborative (MIHEC) Meetings is to create a space that fosters learning, the elevation of community-driven solutions and collaboration, aimed at achieving equity. The MIHEC is one of the drivers of implementing Michigan's Mother Infant Health & Equity Improvement Plan. All are welcome and encouraged to attend!

[Register for the Free Virtual Meeting](#)

May 18, 2023 | August 17, 2023 | November 16, 2023

Upcoming State of Michigan (SOM) Holidays

May
May 29th - Memorial Day

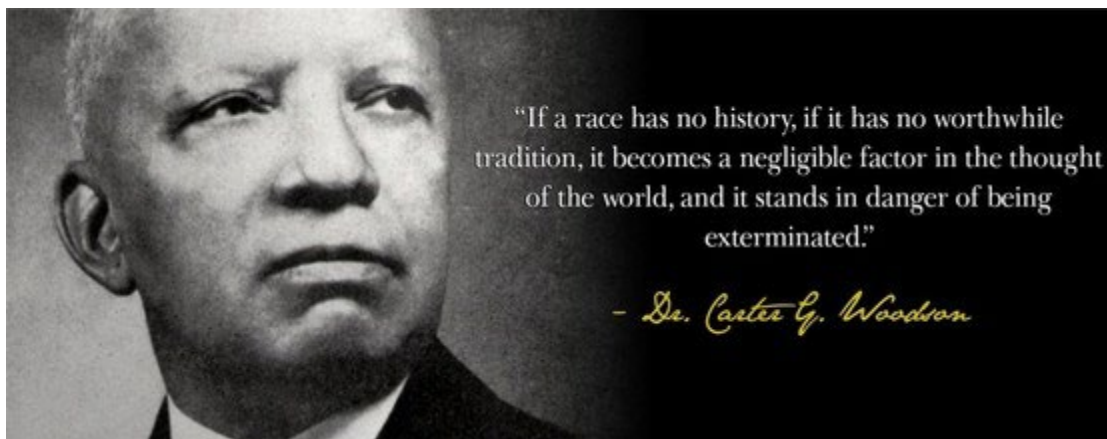
The Man Behind Black History Month

Dr. Carter G. Woodson (1875-1950) dedicated his life to educating African Americans about the achievements and contributions of their ancestors.

To Learn more about Dr. Carter G. Woodson, please use the links below:

[Dr. Carter G. Woodson - NAACP Article](#)

[Dr. Carter G. Woodson Bailey - The History Channel](#)



Previously Released MIHP 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).

Bi-Weekly Update Topic Submission

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

MDHHS Publications

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

Coordinator Directory

[Please click here to access the most recent Coordinator Directory.](#)

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