

## MIHP Biweekly Update

May 20, 2024



### Maternal Infant Health Program

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## Vaccine Education – Translated Materials

Immunize.org now has a [Translations web page](#) that provides quick access to every translated resource on their website. Translations are available in 48 languages. Consider viewing this resource to help support families in accessing materials in their preferred language.

## Count The Kicks

The MDHHS Division of Maternal and Infant Health is working with maternal health providers, birthing hospitals, social service agencies, childbirth educators and other providers in Michigan to assist them in ordering *Count the Kicks* educational materials at [CountTheKicks.org](#). Providers can use these resources to help them discuss baby movement patterns with expectant parents. These materials are available in Arabic, English and Spanish. The partnership is another effort to reach the Advancing Healthy Births vision of zero preventable deaths and zero health disparities.



The advertisement features a yellow background on the left with a blue silhouette of a pregnant woman's belly. Inside the belly, there are colorful footprints (green, purple, red) and a hand holding a smartphone displaying the 'Count the Kicks' app. The text '3rd trimester?' is written in large, stylized letters, and 'Start Counting!' is written in a bold, black font at the bottom. The 'Count the Kicks' logo is in the top left, and the MDHHS logo is in the top right. The main text on the right reads 'Join Us for a FREE Webinar' followed by 'June 24 | 9AM EDT'. Below this, a paragraph describes the webinar as a free, evidence-based stillbirth prevention program for maternal healthcare providers, nurses, doulas, and community workers. A 'Register Today!' call to action is followed by a QR code and a 'REGISTER HERE' button. The URL <https://bit.ly/CTKMIWebinar> is at the bottom.

**Count the Kicks**

**MDHHS**  
Michigan Department of Health & Human Services

Join Us for a  
**FREE Webinar**

June 24 | 9AM EDT

Count the Kicks and the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services are offering a FREE webinar on *Count the Kicks*, an evidence-based stillbirth prevention program. Maternal healthcare providers, nurses, doulas and community based workers in Michigan are invited to learn more about *Count the Kicks*!

**Register Today!**

REGISTER HERE

<https://bit.ly/CTKMIWebinar>



Michigan Department of Health & Human Services

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: MDHHS invites public comment on Title V Block Grant application

### Press Release

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:** May 10, 2024

**CONTACT:** Chelsea Wuth, 517-241-2112, [WuthC@michigan.gov](mailto:WuthC@michigan.gov)

### **MDHHS invites public comment on Title V Block Grant application**

LANSING, Mich. – The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) is inviting public comment on [the Title V Maternal and Child Health \(MCH\) Services Block Grant](#) application and annual report narrative.

Michigan's Title V application is for programs and services planned from Oct. 1, 2024, to Sept. 30, 2025, and includes a report on activities and services provided in fiscal year (FY) 2023. The Title V application is in response to Title V requirements for state health departments and is not a Request for Proposal.

The Title V application addresses needs across five federally identified population groups: women/maternal health, perinatal/infant health, child health, adolescent health and children with special health care needs.

Public comment is particularly encouraged on Title V state action plans (pages 68-234) which address the following priority areas for the current five-year cycle (FY 2021-2025):

- Low-risk cesarean delivery.
- Breastfeeding.
- Infant safe sleep.
- Bullying prevention for adolescents and children with special health care needs.
- Transition for youth with special health care needs to adult health care.
- Oral health care for women and children.
- Childhood lead poisoning prevention.
- Immunizations for children and adolescents.
- Medical care and treatment for children with special health care needs.
- Healthy and intended pregnancy.
- Behavioral and mental health services.

Title V of the Social Security Act of 1935 as amended provides funding to state health departments to improve the health of mothers, infants and children, including children with special health care needs. States are required to meet federal requirements which include spending a minimum of 30% of funding on children ages 1 to 21 years and a minimum of 30% of funding on services for children with special health care needs.

The Title V draft application and annual report are [available online](#). MDHHS welcomes comments on the application by 5 p.m., Monday, June 10. Comments can be submitted to [MDHHS-MCHBlockGrant@michigan.gov](mailto:MDHHS-MCHBlockGrant@michigan.gov).



## Learning Resources



Postpartum Support International  
**Michigan Chapter**

**PSI MI Day at the Capitol**

**FRIDAY  
MAY  
31ST**

**SAVE THE DATE!**

**2024 MATERNAL MENTAL HEALTH  
AWARENESS DAY  
12:00PM TO 2:00PM  
STATE CAPITOL - LANSING MI**

**FLAMINGOS AND FAMILIES  
WHAAAT?**

Did you know that the lives of Flamingos are strikingly similar to the lives of postpartum mothers/birthing persons?

Join us in Lansing on the Capitol Steps to learn more and celebrate Maternal Mental Health Awareness!

**Families are Welcome to Attend!**

Join us for our Annual Day at the Capitol Event on May 31st on the Lansing State Capitol Steps from 12-2 PM.

- **Wear PINK!**
- Bring your Family and Friends
- Goodie Bags and Water will be provided.
- Listen to some AMAZING speakers talk about Perinatal Mental Health:
  - Maria Muzik (Professor at University of Michigan in the Departments of Psychiatry and Obstetrics and Gynecology, Co-Director of Zero to Thrive & Women and Infant Mental Health Program, Medical Director of the Perinatal Psychiatry Service and MC3 Perinatal Psychiatry Assessment Program Michigan)
  - Coach Shay (An amazing holistic health and wellness coach who will share practical tips on wellness as well as her own personal survival story)
  - Amy Lawson and Kersten Kimmerly (Perinatal Therapists who will share advice and practical tips they give clients to help them heal and thrive.)
  - Tierra Emerson (Alliance Representative)
  - \*Those that desire to participate will also have the opportunity to be led on the capitol lawn in a wellness movement/yoga activity

# May 2024: Perinatal Mood and Anxiety Disorders Awareness Month

## Important Announcement

Governor Whitmer has declared this month Perinatal Mood and Anxiety Awareness Month in Michigan. The proclamation is below and can be accessed at:

<https://www.michigan.gov/whitmer/news/proclamations/2024/05/01/may-2024-perinatal-mood-and-anxiety-disorders-awareness-month>

**WHEREAS**, more than 26,000 Michiganders and their families are affected by Perinatal Mood and Anxiety Disorders (PMAD) each year, historically known as either depression during pregnancy or Postpartum Depression; and,

**WHEREAS**, PMAD affects over 25% of birthing mothers and 10% of partners who have infants, and many more cases go unreported or undiagnosed; and,

**WHEREAS**, PMAD can appear during pregnancy and up to two years after a baby is born; and,

**WHEREAS**, although primarily affecting birth mothers, PMAD can affect adoptive mothers and other members of the family, including fathers, partners, and caregivers; support from family and friends is imperative; and,

**WHEREAS**, PMAD can vary from person to person and can include a variety of symptoms such as depression, anxiety, guilt, irritability, anger, difficulty sleeping and eating, feeling overwhelmed, disconnection from baby, and experiencing frightening and intrusive thoughts; and,

**WHEREAS**, the work of health care professionals and community organizations to screen women and families for PMAD and improve access to successful referral and treatment is vital; and,

**WHEREAS**, PMAD education helps reduce stigma and is essential to improving the mental health of women and entire family units; and,

**WHEREAS**, this month, we join with the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services to raise awareness about PMAD and support the efforts of medical providers, community agencies, and Michigan home visitation providers to assist PMAD affected families;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Gretchen Whitmer, governor of Michigan, do hereby proclaim May 2024 as Perinatal Mood and Anxiety Disorders Awareness Month in Michigan.

[Governor](#)



Michigan Department of Health & Human Services

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: MDHHS encourages hepatitis B and hepatitis C testing during pregnancy as part of Hepatitis Awareness Month**

### **Press Release**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:** May 15, 2024

**CONTACT:** Chelsea Wuth, 517-241-2112, [WuthC@michigan.gov](mailto:WuthC@michigan.gov)

### **MDHHS encourages hepatitis B and hepatitis C testing during pregnancy as part of Hepatitis Awareness Month**

LANSING, Mich. – Governor Gretchen Whitmer has [proclaimed](#) May as [Hepatitis Awareness Month](#) and Sunday, May 19 as Hepatitis Testing Day in Michigan to raise awareness about viral hepatitis and encourage testing and vaccination.

In recognition of Hepatitis Awareness Month and Hepatitis Testing Day, the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) is highlighting the importance of testing for hepatitis B (HBV) and hepatitis C (HCV) during every pregnancy, ideally at the initial prenatal visit.

“Hepatitis B and hepatitis C viruses are treatable; however, when left untreated they can lead to long-term infections causing liver disease and liver cancer,” said Dr. Natasha Bagdasarian, chief medical executive. “These viruses can be detected through a simple blood test. We are encouraging pregnant people to talk to their health care provider about risk factors and getting tested.”

Viral hepatitis primarily affects the liver. HBV and HCV are the leading causes of liver cancer and the most common reason for liver transplants in the United States. HBV and HCV can be transmitted from pregnant people to their baby during pregnancy and childbirth. Therefore, testing for these viruses during pregnancy is critical for identifying people who need treatment and at-risk infants in need of testing, HBV vaccination and monitoring.

HBV is transmitted from person-to-person through contaminated blood or body fluids. To protect against infection, the following groups should receive HBV vaccination:

- All infants and children and adolescents younger than 19 years who have not been vaccinated.
- Adults ages 19 through 59 years.
- Adults ages 60 years and older with risk factors for HBV.

HCV is spread through contact with blood from an infected person. People with HCV infections are often undiagnosed because they rarely experience symptoms or feel sick. There is no vaccine for HCV; however, there are effective medications that can cure HCV infection when taken once daily for as little as eight to 12 weeks. HCV treatment is not currently approved for use during pregnancy; however, treatment can be administered after delivery and completion of breastfeeding.

Infants exposed to HCV during pregnancy and childbirth should be tested for HCV between 2-6 months of age and monitored by a pediatrician with HCV expertise until they are eligible to receive treatment at 3 years of age.

Any Medicaid or Healthy Michigan Plan beneficiary living with HCV can receive HCV treatment at little to no cost through the [We Treat Hep C Initiative](#). Beneficiaries seeking HCV treatment can locate a provider by visiting the [Hepatitis C Treatment Provider Map and Directory](#). While not a complete list of all HCV treatment providers in the state, it serves as a valuable resource.

For more information, please visit the MDHHS [Hepatitis](#) webpage.



# Webinar Registration: Grief & Bereavement - Supporting Bereaved Families

We are pleased to announce the next webinar in our Infant Safe Sleep Webinar Series.

**When:** Tuesday, June 4, 2024, 11 am to 12 PM EST **Title:** Grief & Bereavement - Supporting Bereaved Families **Presenter:** Audra Brummel, MPH, CHES, Infant Health Consultant, Michigan Fetal Infant Mortality Review (FIMR) Coordinator, Michigan Department of Health and Human Services **Description:** Grief is complex and every person's journey is unique. This webinar will provide an overview of grief and bereavement and strategies to support families. The webinar will:

- Provide an overview on the types of loss and reactions to grief.
- Highlight factors that may influence the grief response.
- Discuss strategies for supporting families who've experienced a pregnancy, infant, and/or maternal loss.
- Cover strategies to support yourself as you help those who are grieving.
- Provide an overview of resources.

**Register at:**

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84603024275?pwd=onlYxUcwfKX4HjQIByyGiqnL877nXs.1>

If you have any questions, please email the Infant Safe Sleep Program at [MDHHS-InfantSafeSleep@michigan.gov](mailto:MDHHS-InfantSafeSleep@michigan.gov).

Good night. Sleep tight. Sleep safe.

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



# Infant Safe Sleep 101

Through a contract with the Michigan Public Health Institute (MPHI), the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) provides *Infant Safe Sleep 101*. This training is designed for DHHS staff but is open to partners outside MDHHS. This virtual training is approximately 90 minutes and is designed to raise awareness of the importance of engaging parents and caregivers on the topic of infant safe sleep. This training will provide staff with knowledge surrounding safe sleep practices, an understanding of DHHS policy as it relates to safe sleep, how to reduce infant deaths due to unsafe sleep, and how to engage families in discussion regarding the importance of safe sleep practices.

## The training will be held on the following dates:

Wednesday, May 29, 2024, 10:00-11:30 am EST

Register at: [https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_i5esphlvR1mm7dykhBocmQ](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_i5esphlvR1mm7dykhBocmQ)

Thursday, August 8, 2024, 1:00-2:30 PM EST

Register at: [https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_Z3SdegjxTqSEDjcrliZyKw](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_Z3SdegjxTqSEDjcrliZyKw)

Wednesday, November 20, 2024, 10:00-11:30 am EST

Register at: [https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_naypuGZHTw69N\\_e8V04bxQ](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_naypuGZHTw69N_e8V04bxQ)

For questions about this training, please contact Kim Pickett at [kpickett@mphi.org](mailto:kpickett@mphi.org).

Good night. Sleep tight. Sleep safe.

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





Michigan Department of Health & Human Services

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Innovative MDHHS project to keep families together expands to 11 additional Michigan counties**

### **Press Release**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:** May 15, 2024

**CONTACT:** Lynn Sutfin, 517-241-2112, [SutfinL1@michigan.gov](mailto:SutfinL1@michigan.gov)

LANSING, Mich. – The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) today announced the expansion of the innovative Family Impact Team (FIT) project to 11 additional counties to keep more children safe by making sure their parents are connected to programs that meet their basic needs.

The FIT project has delivered services such as food assistance, Medicaid, housing assistance and gas cards to more than 1,000 families in 12 counties so far during the program’s nine-month first phase. FIT embeds family resource specialists with child protection and foster care staff so they can help families apply for benefits and other economic support.

“This innovative approach to keeping kids safe had resulted in phenomenal success stories over the last several months,” said MDHHS Director Elizabeth Hertel. “Our FIT workers have used their ingenuity and fierce determination to ensure Michigan families stay intact and healthy. We’re excited to expand the project to even more counties and recognize it takes a committed team of MDHHS professionals working around the clock, doing everything in their power to meet people’s specific needs.”

The second phase of the FIT project is now starting in the following counties: Berrien, Clare, Delta, Dickinson, Isabella, Macomb, Menominee, Ogemaw, Ottawa, Roscommon and Saginaw. The first phase of the project includes Allegan, Barry, Chippewa, Grand Traverse, Kalkaska, Leelanau, Luce, Mackinac, Oakland, Sanilac, St. Clair and Wayne counties.

The FIT approach strengthens collaboration between MDHHS’s Economic Stability Administration and its Children’s Services Administration, which protects children and provides services to their families.

“Our FIT workers are adept at leveraging a variety of community resources to benefit Michigan families who are most at risk,” said Demetrius Starling, executive director of the Children’s Services Administration. “Like all MDHHS workers, they also have a tremendous desire to help people in their communities. Expanding this worthy project will allow us to help even more Michigan families.”

“By helping connect families with benefits and other resources including food assistance, Medicaid and housing assistance, FIT workers are ensuring families can thrive in Michigan,” said Dwayne Haywood, Senior Deputy Director, Economic Stability Administration. “A shortage of household resources is not the same as neglect, and the FIT program has been very successful at finding solutions for families to overcome temporary hardships and get back on their feet.”

The FIT project is part of the [Keep Kids Safe Action Agenda](#), the department’s ongoing efforts to improve the safety and well-being of Michigan children.

## Upcoming State of Michigan (SOM) Holidays

May 27  
June 19  
July 4  
September 2  
November 5  
November 11  
November 28 and 29  
December 24 and 25  
December 31

### Previously Released MIHP Updates

To review any previously released MIHP Biweekly Updates, they can be found by [visiting the MIHP webpage Michigan.gov/MIHP](http://Michigan.gov/MIHP).

### Biweekly Update Topic Submission

If you have suggestions for topics to be addressed in future additions of the MIHP Biweekly 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. [MIHP 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](mailto:MIHP@michigan.gov). For further assistance, contact the state office @ **1-833-MI4-MIHP (1-833-644-6447)**. Thank you.