

MIHP Biweekly Update

July 31, 2023



Maternal Infant Health Program

-
- [HARC Membership Opportunity](#)
 - [Delay in Immunization Training Course](#)
 - [Counterfeit and Fake Car Seats](#)
 - [FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: MDHHS extends MI Safe School Indoor Air Ventilation program with free air purifiers for K-12 schools](#)
 - [August is National Breastfeeding Month](#)
 - [August is Immunization Awareness Month](#)
 - [NEW Webinar: "Fatherhood Empowerment: Beneficial for Everyone"](#)
 - [Upcoming State of Michigan \(SOM\) Holidays](#)
 - [August: Awareness Months & Holidays for Causes](#)
 - [Previously Released MIHP Updates](#)
 - [Bi-Weekly Update Topic Submission](#)
 - [MDHHS Publications](#)
 - [Coordinator Directory](#)

HARC Membership Opportunity

The Maternal Infant Health Program has recently enrolled as a model member of the Home Visiting Applied Research Collaborative (HARC). HARC is a national research and development platform for innovation to broaden and strengthen home visiting's benefits for all families and communities. In May, HARC held its 8th Annual *Collaborative Science of Home Visiting Meeting* and has recently updated its [website](#).

HARC is a membership organization—membership is free and open to anyone with an interest in home visiting. At the heart of HARC is its practice-based research network (PBRN). There are several benefits of HARC and PBRN membership, including: a monthly newsletter, the opportunity to participate in research studies, the opportunity to be among the first to learn about research findings from HARC studies, and an invitation to HARC's annual meeting. There are five categories of membership, explained on the enrollment page, including one for Local Programs and/or Agencies.

We are writing to **encourage all MIHP agencies to also enroll in HARC**. Please follow this link to the HARC website, [Join the Network](#) page, to find the surveys. On the same page is an FAQ list about HARC and the benefits of membership.

Finally, we invite everyone to visit and explore HARC's new website and invite everyone connected with home visiting to join HARC. Please feel free to widely share the [HARC website link](#) and the link to the [Join the Network](#) webpage.

If you have any questions please feel free to email HARC's Coordinator– Jane Daniels at jdaniels@jhu.edu.

Delay in Immunization Training Course

MDHHS MIHP would like to provide an update regarding the release date for the upcoming Immunization Training Course. In the June 20th Biweekly Update, the "Immunization Communication for Maternal Infant Health Program (MIHP) Providers" course was set to launch later in the month of July, however there continues to be a delay in processing. You will be notified when the course is available.

Counterfeit and Fake Car Seats

Counterfeit and fake car seats are a rapidly growing concern in child safety. Parents and gift givers are purchasing seats from online deal sites like eBay and AliExpress as well as 3rd party sellers on Amazon, Temu and Walmart, sometimes with high-end price tags. Even parents that do extensive research can be easily fooled by these unsafe look-a-likes and/or tricked into purchasing car seats that do not meet US regulations or safety standards.

Please share the attached resources with your MIHP team so they can educate families.

[Counterfeit & Fake Car Seats Safe Kids Oakland County CRS-Determining-U.S.-Compliance.pdf](#)



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: MDHHS extends MI Safe School Indoor Air Ventilation program with free air purifiers for K-12 schools

Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: July 28, 2023

CONTACT: Chelsea Wuth, 517-241-2112, WuthC@michigan.gov

MDHHS extends MI Safe School Indoor Air Ventilation program with free air purifiers for K-12 schools *Over 42,600 purifiers provided to schools to date*

Lansing, Mich. – Michigan K-12 schools are encouraged to obtain free air purifiers through the MI Safe School Indoor Air Ventilation program. The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) launched the program last year to help support the improvement of indoor air quality in schools. The program works with partners to provide air purifiers at no cost to Michigan schools. Since the launch of the program in December 2022, MDHHS has provided more than 42,600 air purification machines to 451 school districts across the state. In May 2023, CDC updated their guidelines for air exchanges in schools, with the goal of reaching a total of five air changes per hour in their building's air quality strategy. MDHHS is extending this program so that schools who have participated can order more machines if needed under the new guidance and to provide schools that have not participated with an opportunity to add these machines to their strategy. Schools are able to order as many machines as needed based upon their building's needs.

“Air purifiers are another tool in our toolbox to improve air quality and help prevent the spread of illness while at school, as well as provide additional protection from allergens and wildfire smoke,” said Dr. Natasha Bagdasarian, MDHHS chief medical executive. “MDHHS is excited to offer the air ventilation and purification program to our schools. Staying healthy leads to better academic outcomes as well as social and emotional well-being.”

Air purifiers are provided by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Epidemiology Laboratory Capacity Reopening Schools award. Schools, including those who have participated in the program previously, will have the opportunity to receive air purifiers. The portable air purifiers may be used in classrooms and other communal areas to reduce the number of harmful microbes and allergens in the atmosphere. This extension is to provide all public and private K-12 schools with another opportunity to obtain portable air purifiers while supplies last.

“We encourage more schools to keep their facilities’ air healthy and clean by taking advantage of this opportunity for free air purifiers,” said State Superintendent Dr. Michael Rice. “Parents will be able to breathe easier knowing that their children are learning in healthier environments.”

All K-12 schools are eligible to use resources offered by MDHHS programs.

For more information submit your K-12 school information to the [MI Safe Schools Indoor Air Ventilation Program Request Form](#).

For more information on MI Safe School programs email MDHHS-COVIDTestingSupport@michigan.gov.

[Please click here to view the PDF version of the Press Release.](#)



Michigan Department of Health & Human Services

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: First mosquito-borne virus cases of 2023 now detected in Oakland and Macomb county residents

Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: July 28, 2023

CONTACT: Chelsea Wuth, 517-241-2112, WuthC@michigan.gov

First mosquito-borne virus cases of 2023 now detected in Oakland and Macomb county residents *Michigan residents urged to take precautions to prevent mosquito bites, especially in August and September*

LANSING, Mich. -- Two Michigan residents have tested positive for Jamestown Canyon virus (JCV), a mosquito-borne virus. These two individuals from Macomb and Oakland counties are the first human arboviral illness cases identified in the state this year. The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) is reminding residents that the best way to protect against all mosquito-borne illnesses including JCV, West Nile virus (WNV) and Eastern Equine Encephalitis virus (EEE) is to prevent mosquito bites.

Mosquito pools from Bay, Saginaw, and Washtenaw counties have tested positive for JCV this summer. WNV has been found in mosquitoes collected in Kalamazoo, Wayne and Washtenaw counties. The risk for mosquito-borne illness rises throughout the state over the course of the mosquito season, peaking in August and September.

“It only takes one bite from an infected mosquito to cause a severe illness, so we advise using insect repellent and wearing long-sleeved shirts and long pants when outdoors during times when mosquitoes are active,” said Dr. Natasha Bagdasarian, MDHHS chief medical executive “It’s a good idea to take extra precautions during peak mosquito-biting hours, which are from dusk to dawn.”

JCV and other mosquito-borne viruses are transmitted through the bite of a mosquito that has gotten the virus by feeding on an infected animal. Most people who contract the virus have no symptoms of illness, but some may become ill two to 14 days after the bite of an infected mosquito. Symptoms typically include a high fever, confusion, muscle weakness and a severe headache. More serious complications include neurological illnesses such as meningitis and encephalitis.

The best way to prevent any mosquito-borne illness is to reduce the number of mosquitoes around your home and to take personal precautions to avoid mosquito bites.

Precautions include:

- Using EPA-registered insect repellents with one of the following active ingredients: DEET, picaridin, IR3535, oil of lemon eucalyptus or para-menthane-diol and 2-undecanone. Follow the product label instructions and reapply as directed.
 - Don't use repellent on children under 2 months old. Instead dress your child in clothing that covers arms and legs and cover crib, stroller and baby carrier with mosquito netting.
- Wearing shoes and socks, light-colored long pants and long-sleeved shirts when outdoors.
- Making sure doors and windows have tight-fitting screens. Repair or replace screens that have tears or other openings.
- Using bed nets when sleeping outdoors or in conditions with no window screens.
- Eliminating all sources of standing water that can support mosquito breeding around your home, including water in bird baths, abandoned swimming pools, wading pools, old tires and any other object holding water once a week.

For more information, visit Michigan.gov/EmergingDiseases or CDC.gov/Jamestown-Canyon.

[First JCV Case in Human Press Release.pdf](#)



August is National Breastfeeding Month

National Breastfeeding Month is recognized during the month of **August**, which offers an opportunity to review current breastfeeding recommendations, explore new resources, and learn about ways to strengthen breastfeeding support for families across Michigan.

National Breastfeeding Month Weekly Observances:

- **August 1-7:** [World Breastfeeding Week](#)
- **August 8-14:** [Indigenous Milk Medicine Week](#)
- **August 15-21:** [Asian American Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander Breastfeeding Week](#)
- **August 25-31:** [Black Breastfeeding Week](#)
- **September 5-11:** [Semana de La Lactancia Latina](#)

Consider reviewing these resources to learn more:

- [**American Academy of Pediatrics \(AAP\) Policy Statement: Breastfeeding and the Use of Human Milk**](#)
 - This June 2022 Policy Statement outlines the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) infant feeding recommendations and describes the short- and long-term health benefits of breastfeeding. The AAP **“recommends exclusive breastfeeding for approximately 6 months after birth.”** The AAP also **“supports continued breastfeeding, along with appropriate complementary foods introduced at about 6 months, as long as mutually desired by mother and child for 2 years or beyond.”**

- [**Breastfeeding for Professionals Working with Families Online Course**](#)
 - This online course is designed to provide professionals working with families the tools to build a culture of breastfeeding by covering the root causes of disparities in breastfeeding rates, information to support consistent messaging about breastfeeding, policies and best practices for breastfeeding in everyday life, and how professionals can champion breastfeeding when communicating with families.

- [**Michigan WIC National Breastfeeding Month Materials**](#)
 - These resources, which include social media templates and National Breastfeeding Month logos, are located within the “Promotional and Community Activities” section (search this page for the term “National Breastfeeding Month”). Please note that partners are asked not to revise or modify the logos/templates, which may be shared without crediting Michigan WIC. When sharing these materials, consider including a local breastfeeding support phone number or the [WIC Breastfeeding Warmline](#): (833) 649-4223.

- [**Michigan WIC Milk Sharing Webcast**](#)
 - Michigan WIC is hosting the webcast, “Milk Sharing: Making it Work” on Thursday, August 3rd from 9:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. The webcast will feature the history of milk sharing, along with WIC staff, parents and community partners sharing their experiences with milk sharing and donor milk banks. Register for the webcast [at this link](#).

- [**WHY Baby-Friendly? Webinar**](#) (hosted by the MDHHS Infant Safe Sleep Program)
 - This webinar discusses the recent updates to the Baby-Friendly USA 10 Steps to Successful Breastfeeding framework. The scientific evidence for WHY Baby-Friendly accreditation matters and how it translates into better breastfeeding outcomes is also explored. This webinar is presented by Paula K. Schreck, MD, IBCLC, FABM, Medical Director, Breastfeeding Support Services, Breastfeeding Coordinator, Ascension
 - Additional webinars hosted by the Infant Safe Sleep program can be found at the link above.

August is Immunization Awareness Month



National Immunization Awareness Month (NIAM) is an annual observance each August, highlighting the importance of immunization for people of all ages. In honor of NIAM, MDHHS-MIHP has developed a weekly email series “Information Gap”.

Each Monday this month, MIHP agencies will receive an email with “myth-busting” information in hopes to help stop the spread of misinformation/disinformation around immunizations. This email series is intended to **strengthen your understanding of maternal & infant vaccines to help fill the “information gap” with credible and accurate vaccine knowledge**. The series will also provide resources you can use to promote immunization awareness with families.

Each Wednesday, you will be challenged to fill the “information gap”. *The series will be outlined as followed:*

- **“The Claim”**: a statement that is believed to be true or factual regarding vaccines, although it cannot be proven, supported, or back by evidence-based science.
- **“The Fact”**: a scientific evidence-based statement that is known and proven to be true and factual information regarding vaccines.

Each e-mail will also include an invitation to take action, by completing a brief survey to share your feedback, which will help inform our efforts.

To learn about NIAM, find campaign materials, and more visit the CDC’s website dedicated to [National Immunization Awareness Month](#).



NEW Webinar: "Fatherhood Empowerment: Beneficial for Everyone"

[Registration now open!](#)

Description from our presenter: "This presentation serves to address the benefits of father empowerment as it relates to: child development; birthing persons care and wellbeing; the healthcare system; and the father himself." **Objectives:**

- Explore practical ways to engage fathers
- Learn how father involvement benefits the birthing person and the baby
- Discover how father involvement can actually strengthen healthcare outcomes and reduce costs

Approved for 1 L-CERP, 1 nurse's contact hour, 1 social work CE hour, 1 dietitian CPEU, 1 Community Health Worker CEU, and 1 Certified Health Education Specialist CECH until July 16, 2024.

[Please click here to register](#)

Upcoming State of Michigan (SOM) Holidays

September 4
November 10
November 23 and 24
December 22 and 25
December 29

August: Awareness Months & Holidays for Causes



There are several awareness months celebrated in August — though the six that often get the most attention include National Black Business Month, National Immunization Awareness Month, Don't Be a Bully Month, Spinal Muscular Atrophy Awareness Month, National Road Victim Month, and World Cancer Support Month.

National Black Business Month	August 1
World Lung Cancer Day	August 1
Emancipation Day	August 1
Esther Day	August 3
National Nonprofit Day	August 17
Women's Equality Day	August 26
Anniversary of the march on Washington	August 28
National Grief Awareness Day	August 30

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.