

# Bi-Weekly Update

## Maternal Infant Health Program



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

**Monday, January 31, 2022**

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## Meet the Team – Chelsea Low Darling



Happy New Year! My name is Chelsea Low Darling, I am one of the Public Health Consultants supporting the Maternal Infant Health Program. I have been honored to serve in this role for almost five years and recently returned from maternity leave after a wonderful and humbling experience as a first-time mom.

I received my bachelor's degree in psychology from Michigan State University and my master's degree in social work from the University of Michigan. I am a licensed social worker, practiced as a birth and postpartum doula, worked as a home visitor, managed perinatal health research, trained as a Certified Lactation Counselor, and dedicated my professional career to supporting families in the perinatal period and

beyond.

Thank you all for well wishes and support, I am so grateful to be rejoining the MIHP Team and this work with a new sense of purpose.

## MIHP May 2022 Coordinator Training

We are updating information that was previously provided regarding the 2022 May Coordinator Training. The training will now be a virtual zoom event held on May 17<sup>th</sup>, 2022, from 9:30am to 3:30pm. There will be scheduled time for breaks and lunch. The agency Coordinator or designee is required to attend. The virtual format will also allow you to invite other MIHP staff as well. We look forward to the event. An agenda will be provided at a later date.

## Personnel Roster Clarification – Date of 1st Independent Home Visit

[The Personnel Roster \[MDHHS-5629\]](#) effective January 1, 2022, has a new column titled "Date of 1<sup>st</sup> Independent Home Visit". This column is designed to capture information to ensure training requirements are completed prior to home visitors conducting visits independently. Please input the date of the first independent home visit for each home visitor since they were hired when submitting an updated roster. Estimating the date is acceptable for experienced staff if the exact date of their first visit is not available in agency records. This date must be on or after the hired date.

# Waiver Staff Application Instructions – License Number Submission

As a part of the waiver staff application, MDHHS MIHP is requesting submission of the license number of the waiver staff applicant and the supervisory staff member. This replaces the request for a copy of the LARA verification. A revised version of the waiver staff application instructions has been posted to the website.

## Webinar and Dialogue with Experts Series: Improving Outcomes for Families Affected by Prenatal Alcohol Exposure Confirmation

**National Center on Substance Abuse and Child Welfare (NCSACW) Webinar  
and Dialogue with Experts Series: *Improving Outcomes for Families Affected  
by Prenatal Substance Exposure***

**Session I | Tuesday | February 22  
10:30am–12:00pm (PST) | 1:30–3:00pm (EST)**

**Session II | Thursday | February 24  
10:30am–12:00pm (PST) | 1:30–3:00pm (EST)**

Join NCSACW and Dr. Ira J. Chasnoff for a two-part session on improving outcomes for families affected by prenatal alcohol exposure. Other than tobacco, alcohol remains the most commonly used substance during pregnancy.<sup>[1]</sup> Prenatal alcohol exposure has stronger long-term effects on child growth, behavior, cognition, and achievement than other substances.<sup>[2]</sup>

### **The first session covers:**

- Identification of fetal alcohol spectrum disorder (FASD) during birth and early childhood
- Strategies to assist parents or caregivers with children affected by prenatal alcohol exposure
- How Plans of Safe Care (POSC) can link parents to services and supports
- Examples of screening tools

Dr. Chasnoff will share his experiences and lessons learned while working with families affected by prenatal alcohol exposure in the second session—which also offers a chance to ask questions and share ideas.

[REGISTER HERE](#). You may submit questions in advance of the session during the registration process.

Presenter:

[Ira J. Chasnoff, MD](#) an award-winning author, researcher, and lecturer, is president of NTI Upstream and a Professor of Clinical Pediatrics at the University of Illinois College of Medicine in Chicago. Dr. Chasnoff is one of the nation's leading researchers in the field of child development and the effects of maternal alcohol and drug use on the newborn infant, child, and adolescent.

His research projects include multiple studies of the long-term cognitive, behavioral and educational developmental effects of prenatal exposure to alcohol, marijuana, and illicit drugs; strategies for screening pregnant women for substance use; the effects on birth outcome of prenatal treatment and counseling for pregnant women who misuse or abuse alcohol and other drugs; innovative treatment approaches for children affected by prenatal exposure to alcohol or illicit drugs, and effective policy development that benefits children, families, and society as a whole. Since 2002, Dr. Chasnoff has been leading cutting edge research into innovative treatment for children with FASD.

Registration is free.

## **Perinatal Cannabis Use in the Era of Increasing Legalization: Considerations for State MCH Programs - AMCHP**

The Association of Maternal & Child Health Programs (AMCHP) November 2021 Brief provides information regarding Perinatal Cannabis Use. The brief discusses strategies for consideration by State MCH programs to minimize the potential harms of perinatal cannabis use.

Link to access the brief: [Perinatal Cannabis Use in the Era of Increasing Legalization: Considerations for State MCH Programs - AMCHP](#)

# Virtual Baby Safety Fair - Winter & Indoor Safety

On **February 16, 2022 from 10-11:30 a.m.**, join the Oakland County Health Division for a virtual baby fair to learn about important safety information to keep your baby or grandbaby safe. Learn more about indoor and winter weather safety. Topics include:

- Child Passenger Safety
- Smoking Risk & Cessation
- Feeding Infants Safely
- Household Safety
- Lead
- Safe Sleep

Register at [Online Survey Software | Qualtrics Survey Solutions](#). Registration is required. You don't need to be an Oakland County resident to attend.

# VIRTUAL BABY SAFETY FAIR

WINTER & INDOOR SAFETY



**FEBRUARY 16 • 10 - 11:30 AM • ON ZOOM**

**FREE • RAFFLE • GIVE-A-WAYS • SPEAKERS**

Public health professionals share important safety information to keep your baby or grandbaby safe. Learn more about indoor and winter weather safety.

## PRESENTATION TOPICS

- Child Passenger Safety
- Feeding Infants Safely
- Lead
- Smoking Risks & Cessation
- Household Safety
- Safe Sleep

## REGISTRATION

- Click [bit.ly/3F6xlwb](https://bit.ly/3F6xlwb) or scan here:
- Registration is required.



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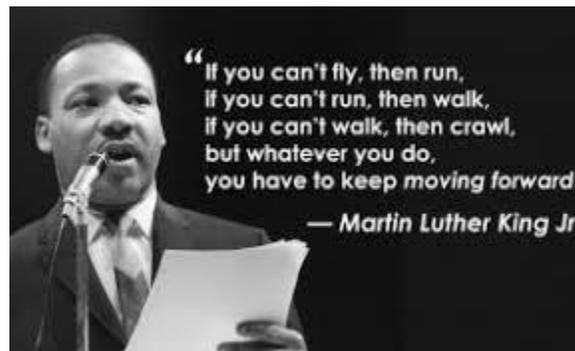
The Oakland County Health Division will not deny participation in its programs based on race, sex, religion, national origin, age or disability. State and federal eligibility requirements apply for certain programs.

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## Parent Opportunity: MIHP Representation Needed

Michigan is fortunate to have a variety of home visiting programs for families. However, selecting the more appropriate service can be confusing for both home visitors and parents. MDHHS Maternal Infant Health Program want to ensure that beneficiaries are receiving services that meet the needs of their family. The goal of the Home Visiting Navigation Work Group is to develop tools that can be used to help families find and select the home visiting program that will be the best fit for their wants and needs. They are looking for Parent representation to develop a tool that will help provide information about the various evidence-based models in Michigan. The group is looking for Parents and/or caregivers who are currently in or have received evidence-based home visiting services in Michigan in the past 2 years. We hope that you may be able to extend the attached flyer to a parent and/or caregiver who has participated in MIHP. Selected family participants will be paid for sharing their time and experience at \$18/hour, plus reimbursement for childcare, if needed. Family participants would commit to joining up to six virtual meetings, 1 hour each, every other week starting in March. Again, if you know a parent and/or caregiver who may be interested, please feel free to extend the attached flyer the Home Visiting Navigation Work group which includes information on how to apply.

[Home Visiting Navigation Work Group-Parent Invite.pdf](#)



## Link to MDHHS Publications

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

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## 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.](#)

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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.