

# Maternal Infant Health Program Weekly Update



Please share this information with all  
MIHP team members.

Tuesday, January 19, 2021

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## National Day of Racial Healing

Governor Gretchen Whitmer proclaimed January 19, 2021 as the National Day of Racial Healing in Michigan, in conjunction with others throughout the United States.

“After the events over the past few weeks, we must take a hard look at the state of rising racial tensions in our country to enact change and begin healing and transformation,” said **Governor Whitmer**. “We each have a role to play in changing this state and country for the better. So, today I challenge you to leave Michigan a better state than where you found it and make Michigan a more welcoming place for all.”

"On this day, we encourage Michiganders to examine ways in which they can promote racial healing in our communities," said **Lt. Governor Gilchrist**. "This past year has reminded us that racism is not easily removed from our communities, but we must continue to work towards a more just and equitable Michigan. As we look to heal our nation through unity, our opportunity right now as leaders is to respond to this anxiety with action, to address this pain with purpose, and to recognize and restore the respect that all Michiganders deserve."

Earlier this year, Governor Whitmer took steps to ensure that everybody has a seat at the table by creating the Black Leadership Council and the Michigan Coronavirus Task Force on Racial Disparities. The governor also signed an [Executive Directive](#) recognizing racism as a public health crisis and requiring all state employees to take implicit bias training to understand the unconscious preferences we experience without intentional control and how it can impact others.

Since day one, Governor Whitmer has been committed to using every tool at her disposal to create a more equitable and just Michigan. There is no denying the sustaining wounds this country's history has left on racial equity systemically and socially. Observance of this day aims to encourage reflection, conversation, and action.

To view the proclamation, click the link below:

- [Day of Racial Healing.pdf](#)

## Exception Request Deadline

The deadline for requesting exceptions to MIHP program requirements as outlined in an Email Alert on December 10<sup>th</sup> and the Weekly Update on January 4<sup>th</sup> is **February 26, 2021**. Please ensure that your request is submitted by that date.

As mentioned in the Community of Practice webinar on January 13<sup>th</sup>, we continue to work with our partners on the Medicaid Policy team to identify ways that we can accommodate agencies experiencing challenges due to the pandemic. Our goal is to provide flexibility for our agencies while ensuring that program quality standards are met.

## Revisions to Contact Log Instructions

The instructions page for the *Contact Log* was updated on January 11<sup>th</sup> to align with the guidance already provided in the MIHP Operations Guide (see items #8 and #9 on the instructions page). The *Contact Log* has not been modified. The updated version has been posted on the MIHP website.

## Michigan Tobacco Quitline Reminder

The Michigan Tobacco Quitline, a free service funded by the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services and run by National Jewish Health, is currently underutilized. National Jewish Health started the tobacco Quitline in 2002 and it is currently available in 19 states. The Quitline was highlighted in the September 2020 Community of Practice webinar. We encourage you to promote this free benefit to your families who are struggling with tobacco use.

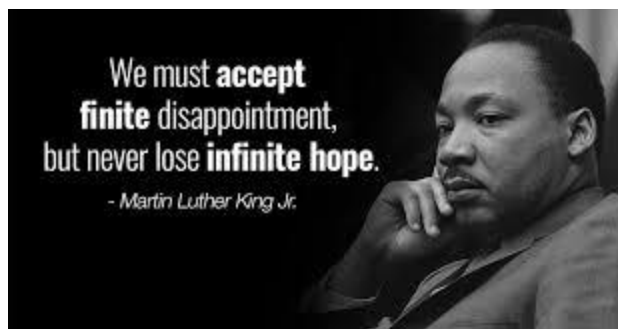
Coaches, trained to work with individuals on tobacco cessation goals, work with participants in either a phone, online or text program. There are special services for people who are pregnant, non-English speaking, deaf or hard of hearing, and American Indian.

**It is important to note that infants who are born to a mother who smoked during pregnancy are at an increased risk of dying due to sleep-related causes.** In Michigan, infants born to a mother who smoked during pregnancy were 4.4 times more likely to die in a sleep environment than infants who were born to a mother who did not smoke during pregnancy. (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) SUID Case Registry – 2010 to 2018, Michigan Public Health Institute, 2020.) To learn more about smoking and pregnancy, view the [Infographic on Smoking and Pregnancy](#).

Information about the Quitline coaching program is available on the website @ <https://michigan.quitlogix.org/en-US/> To enroll by phone call 1-800-QUIT-NOW (784-8669) or 1-855-DEJELLO-YA (335-35692). If under 18, call or text “Start My Quit” to 1-855-891-9989 to enroll in the new youth, My Life My Quit, program.

## Community of Practice Survey

If you participated in the January Community of Practice webinar, you received an email with a link to a brief survey. Please take a few minutes to offer your thoughts on the webinar. Your feedback is important to the development of future webinars and training opportunities. Thank you to those of you who have already completed the survey!



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## Coordinator Directory

To view the most recent Coordinator Directory, please click [here](#).

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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.

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