

# Weekly Update

## Maternal Infant Health Program



Please share this information with all MIHP team members.

Monday, February 8, 2021

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## Gov. Whitmer and Lt. Gov. Gilchrist Recognize Black History Month

Governor Gretchen Whitmer and Lt. Governor Garlin Gilchrist II released a [joint video](#) today to kick off Black History Month and reflect upon the contributions of Black Americans who have shaped history. The governor also proclaimed February 2021 as Black History Month in Michigan.

“It is important that we take this time every year to celebrate and remember the contributions of Black Americans throughout history,” said **Governor Whitmer**. “Black Americans have been vital in contributing to the American economy, history, and culture. Throughout this month, I encourage each of us to take time to reflect on the systemic barriers Black Americans have faced and still face to this day. Each of us has a role to play to shape a brighter future, and I am committed to continuing to work towards a more equitable and representative Michigan.”

“Black History Month is a moment to recognize and celebrate the history-making feats of those who came before us, but it is also a reminder to keep an eye toward the future of progress” said **Lt. Governor Gilchrist**. “No matter where you go, it is impossible to look around without seeing the contributions of Black Americans to our collective knowledge, consciousness, and culture. It is on each of us to activate the potential that exists in the next generation of young Black people by paving the way for them to continue this journey that we are all on together.”

Since day one, Governor Whitmer and Lt. Governor Gilchrist have made it a priority to amplify Black voices and instill real and lasting change. Last year alone, the governor established the Michigan Coronavirus Task Force on Racial Disparities, created the Black Leadership Advisory Council, declared racism as a public health crisis, and signed historic bipartisan legislation to reform Michigan’s criminal expungement laws.

Black History Month is integral to ensuring that Michiganders learn about, reflect on, and celebrate the resilience, strength, and successes of African Americans in their contributions to America as Americans continue to work together for justice and equity.

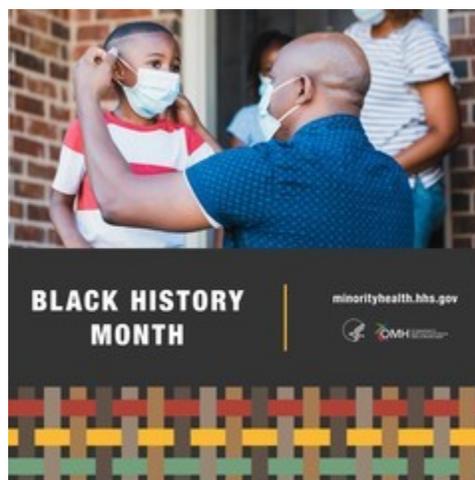
To view the proclamation, click the link below:

[Black History Month Proclamation.pdf](#)

## Black History Month Social Media and Outreach Toolkit

The U.S. Department of Health & Human Services Office of Minority Health has developed a new Black History Month Social Media and Outreach Toolkit Webpage! This Toolkit Webpage includes graphics and messaging that will help promote and highlight Black History Month, and the impacts COVID-19 has on African Americans with underlying health issues such as uncontrolled high blood pressure (hypertension). Click below and view the Toolkit Webpage to access resources!

### [Toolkit Webpage](#)



## Quality Corner: Changes in Cycle 8

*This is the first in a series of articles describing the changes that have been made to Cycle 8 Certification.*

Cycle 8 certification review focuses on compliance with MIHP policy and Operation Guide requirements. Past cycles have included review of protocol, compliance, and quality of services in a single document. Going forward, the certification process will focus on a more meaningful certification review for providers and for the MDHHS MIHP team. Through this process, providers have the ability to focus agency resources on improvement in a concentrated area rather than trying to improve every area receiving a citation at once. In turn, the consultant is provided meaningful information to provide individualized agency-specific consultation.

Cycle 8 focuses on compliance—but of course protocol and quality are very important too. How will the other pieces be monitored?

*Protocols:* Protocols were removed from the Cycle 8 certification review because additions or revisions of protocols should be approved before they are implemented. Rather than waiting for a certification review to find out if a protocol is acceptable and follows the requirements, the MDHHS MIHP team reviews protocols separately from certification. Through this process an agency can be assured their protocols are compliant with requirements without receiving a citation on certification. The MDHHS MIHP team can be assured that agencies understand the requirements when providing MIHP services to beneficiaries.

*Quality:* Quality indicators were removed from Cycle 8 certification as we work to implement more meaningful quality assessment and measurement. The quality review will be conducted at a time separate from the compliance review and may occur several months after the compliance review. The MIHP quality review will align with the quality tool used by other Michigan evidence-based home visiting programs but will include MIHP-specific measures. Through this quality process, MIHP agencies and the MIHP team will have data to see where improvement has occurred and where it is needed, again directing resources where an agency has the most need for improvement.

The quality process and tool will be presented this summer.

*Next week's focus will be on chart selection for Cycle 8 certification.*

## January COP Webinar Now Available

The recording of the January Community of Practice (COP) webinar and the associated slide deck have been posted to the training page of the MIHP website. Answers to participants' questions will be posted there as well later this week.

# 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.

