

Weekly Update

Maternal Infant Health Program



Please share this information with all MIHP team members.

Monday, August 16, 2021

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COVID Vaccination During Pregnancy

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommends that [pregnant people should be vaccinated against COVID-19](#), given new evidence of vaccine safety. Receiving an mRNA COVID-19 vaccine during early pregnancy did not increase risk of miscarriage, according to new findings.

What your families need to know:

- The report included 2,456 pregnant people enrolled in the v-safe pregnancy registry who received at least one dose of an mRNA COVID-19 vaccine just before pregnancy or prior to 20 weeks of pregnancy (as of July 19, 2021).
- Previous findings from three safety monitoring systems did not find any safety concerns for pregnant people who were vaccinated late in pregnancy or for their babies.
- The strengthened CDC recommendations align with those from professional medical organizations serving people who are pregnant, including the [American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists](#) and the [Society for Maternal Fetal Medicine](#).

The rise of the Delta variant across the United States, and the increased risk of severe illness for pregnant people make vaccination for this population more urgent than ever.

[Follow this link for more information](#)

Safe Sleep Training Save the Date

Good night. Sleep tight. Sleep safe.

Learn more about the safest way for babies to sleep at michigan.gov/safesleep



The MDHHS Infant Safe Sleep team will hold a virtual Safe Sleep Training for Home Visitors on October 6th. The training will include information around how to support families who “sometimes” sleep safely.

[Click on the attached flyer for more information.](#)

National Breastfeeding Month

From our partners at the National Institute for Children's Health Quality (NICHQ):

NICHQ joins the U.S. Breastfeeding Committee in recognizing August as **National Breastfeeding Month**, a month dedicated to advancing advocacy, protection, and promotion of breastfeeding to ensure that all mothers and birthing people have the opportunity to breastfeed.

Click on the link above for resources and information for you and the families you serve.



MI-AIMH Biennial Conference

Save the Dates!



42nd MI-AIMH
Biennial Conference
Mon. May 9 through
Wed. May 11, 2022



Mark your calendar! The Michigan Association for Infant Mental Health (MI-AIHM) announces a fully virtual 2022 conference. The MI-AIHM team is looking for suggestions for conference topics and for individuals to participate on committees. If you are interested, please reach out to the team at miaimh.conference@gmail.com.

[Click here for conference updates and information.](#)

Free Text Messaging Service

Please see the August 2nd press release below from our partners at the Michigan Department of Education:

A new public library service for families, called “TALK: Text and Learn for Kindergarten,” will help build early literacy skills for young children, the Library of Michigan announced today.

TALK sends two text messages each week suggesting early literacy activities that parents and caregivers can easily incorporate into daily routines with their children.

The service also notifies parents of free activities and services at their local public libraries. TALK is available to parents and caregivers in Michigan with children ages 5 and under. Parents can sign up by texting TALK to 75547 or visiting www.texttolearn.com.

“The more parents and caregivers speak positively, read, and listen to young children, the better prepared children will be in their emerging literacy when they begin school,” said State Superintendent Dr. Michael Rice. “TALK is another support we can provide for our families to help meet the state’s Top 10 strategic education plan goal of improving early literacy achievement.”

“TALK is a great resource for all parents, but it’s really designed to reach parents who may not have a lot of free time or resources” said Jodi Krahnke, the head of youth services at the Ypsilanti District Library. “We’re excited to provide parents ideas for quick and easy things they can do to help their children be ready for school.”

The service is funded in part by a national leadership grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services. The grant allows TALK, originally created by libraries in Washtenaw County, to be used by all public libraries in Michigan to support early learning in their communities.

State Librarian Randy Riley said, “TALK is a great opportunity for libraries to engage and encourage families to practice simple activities each day with their young children, such as singing and playing, which then helps to develop the cognitive and language skills they need to do well in school and beyond.”

TALK is derived from the research-based program *Every Child Ready to Read*, which promotes five practices to build essential pre-reading skills: reading, singing, talking, writing and playing. Each message begins with one of the five practices and details an activity that parents can use to help their child develop early literacy skills. The content goes beyond literacy and helps parents build other important skills such as pre-math and social emotional skills.

While the service is available and valuable to every family, the goal is to reach parents who may not otherwise have the time or the ability to attend library programs. It is available in English and Spanish.

This project is led by the Ypsilanti District Library (YDL) and any requests for additional information can be made to YDL's head of youth services, Jodi Krahnke, at TextAndLearn@gmail.com. The technology platform to distribute the messages is being developed by the Midwest Collaborative for Library Services, and materials to promote the service will be available to libraries through the Library of Michigan. HighScope Center for Early Education Research and Evaluation helped ensure messages were aligned to a child's development and will be conducting an evaluation of the project.

This project was made possible in part by the Institute of Museum and Library Services [[LG-246434-OLS-20](#)] with support from the Library of Michigan.



H.O.P.E. Trainings from ECIC



Did you have a chance to see Dr. Robert Sege at the MI Home Visiting Conference last week? Or will you be hearing his keynote address on Moving Beyond ACES with HOPE (Healthy Outcomes from Positive Experiences) next week at the Annual Great Start Statewide Convening?

The Early Childhood Investment Corporation (ECIC) is thrilled to announce that their Training and TA team is the first in the country to become Certified Trainers of H.O.P.E., which brings to life new research from Dr. Sege and his partners at Tufts University about how positive childhood experiences drive healthy development and mitigate the effects of adverse childhood experiences.

They will be offering both virtual and in-person trainings starting this fall and would love to come to your community to share this amazing new research, which transforms the way communities work with families and children.

Sign up on the interest list by September 15th to lock in *Early Bird pricing* (a 15% discount) on any H.O.P.E. trainings with ECIC during 2021 or 2022. Signing up does not mean you are required to book a training. The interest list simply lets ECIC know you're interested.

[Interested? Sign Up Here.](#)



Coordinator Directory

[Click here to access the Coordinator Directory](#)

Topic Submission

If you have suggestions for topics to be addressed in future additions of the MIHP Weekly Update, please submit your ideas [here](#).

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 or by clicking [here](#).

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. For further assistance, contact the state office @ **1-833-MI4-MIHP (1-833-644-6447)**. Thank you.
