

# Weekly Update

## Maternal Infant Health Program



Please share this information with all  
MIHP team members.

**Monday, August 23, 2021**

- [New MIHP Manager!](#)
- [Black Breastfeeding Week](#)
- [Immunization Awareness Month](#)
- [Detroit Safe Sleep Walk- N- Rally](#)
- [Coordinator Directory](#)
- [Topic Submission](#)
- [Previously Released MIHP Weekly Updates](#)

## New MIHP Manager!



We are excited to announce that our own Cherie Ross has accepted the position of manager of the Maternal Infant Health Unit/MIHP. Cherie brings over 15 years of experience in home visiting, which includes seven years as a public health consultant for MIHP. She also has many years of experience in early childhood development, family support, and parenting education.

Her official start date in the role is September 5<sup>th</sup>. We will begin working right away to fill the consultant position that she will be vacating. Dan will continue his active involvement in MIHP as the manager of the Perinatal and Infant Health Section. Congratulations, Cherie!

# Black Breastfeeding Week

Black Breastfeeding Week is August 25 – 31.

This year, the theme is Revive. Restore. Reclaim!

Click here for [more information and resources](#) about this important week.



## Immunization Awareness Month



*Please see the press release from MDHHS, issued on August 16th:*

**CONTACT:** Lynn Sutfin, 517-241-2112, [SutfinL1@michigan.gov](mailto:SutfinL1@michigan.gov)

### **Michigan families urged to catch back up on routine vaccines during Immunization Awareness Month**

LANSING, Mich. – Vaccines are proven to protect people from serious diseases at every age. During [Immunization Awareness Month](#), Gov. Gretchen Whitmer and the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) are urging Michigan families to talk to their healthcare provider to ensure family members are up to date on all recommended vaccines.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, some individuals missed routine checkups and vaccinations. With children going back to school and adults going back to the workplace, it is now more important than ever for everyone to get back on track with routine vaccinations.

National Immunization Awareness Month highlights the importance of getting all recommended vaccines throughout the lifetime. To help promote the safety of vaccines and ensure Michiganders get these potentially life-saving immunizations, Governor Whitmer has issued a proclamation declaring August 2021 as Immunization Awareness Month.

“Keeping Michiganders healthy and safe is my number one priority,” said Governor Whitmer. “I encourage everyone take this time to educate themselves on the importance of immunizations to protect our overall public health and keep our families safe. I particularly urge all Michiganders get the safe and effective COVID-19 vaccine as soon as possible. The vaccine is our best defense against the virus and will keep you, your loved ones, and your community safe.”

“Vaccinating on time and following CDC’s recommended schedule is the best protection against serious diseases including COVID-19, influenza, hepatitis A, cancers caused by HPV and measles,” said Dr. Joneigh Khaldun, chief medical executive and chief deputy for health at MDHHS. “We have the power to protect not only ourselves, but our entire community when we vaccinate on time.”

Like many other states nationwide, Michigan saw a decline in vaccination coverage due to the COVID-19 pandemic. According to data from the Michigan Care Improvement Registry (MCIR), as of June 2021 only 54.7 percent of Michigan children 19 through 35 months of age were fully immunized with recommended vaccines.

MDHHS encourages Michiganders to visit the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s (CDC) [Interactive Vaccine Guide](#), which provides information on the vaccines recommended during pregnancy and throughout a child’s life. Adults 19 and older can take the CDC’s [Adult Vaccine Assessment Tool](#) to find out which vaccines they may need. It is important that all Michiganders are up to date on recommended vaccines.

August is also a critical time for those who are eligible to get vaccinated against COVID-19. COVID-19 vaccines are safe and effective at preventing COVID-19 disease, especially severe illness and death. For more information on COVID-19 vaccines and to find a vaccine near you, visit [Michigan.gov/COVIDvaccine](https://Michigan.gov/COVIDvaccine).

During National Immunization Awareness Month, MDHHS joins the [Franny Strong Foundation](#), with which it partners with on the [IVaccinate campaign](#), and other organizations across the nation to spread the message that vaccines are one of the safest ways to protect health and lower risks for certain diseases and cancers.

MDHHS will be sharing information and resources on social media to highlight the importance of vaccines. Help us spread the word. Follow MDHHS on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter \(@MichiganHHS\)](#), and use #ivax2protect to share why you choose to vaccinate.

# Detroit Safe Sleep Walk- N- Rally

CELEBRATE THE KICKOFF OF

## INFANT SAFE SLEEP MONTH

with the Detroit Health Department



## SAFE SLEEP WALK- N- RALLY

**SAVE THE DATE**

**Saturday, September 25, 2021**

9:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Detroit Police Department 11th Precinct

5100 E. Nevada St.

Detroit, MI 48234

**Call 313-410-5264**  
for more information.



# 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](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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