

Meeting Minutes of:
Illinois Department of Public Health
Maternal Mortality Review Committee-Violent Deaths (MMRC-V) subcommittee of Perinatal Advisory
Committee
July 17, 2025, 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
This meeting will be VIRTUAL ONLY

Members	Guests & IDPH
Robin L. Jones- Chair Alysan Anderson Alyssa Ramirez Andrew Fisher Ann Borders Anne Liz Glasgow Carole Warshaw Cheyenne Thompson Chloe McMurray Elise Wessol Glendean Burton Jaclyn Rodriguez Jennifer Martin Jerome Loew Kara Driscoll Karie Stewart Kate Austman Kimberly Gressick Lita Simanis Maripat Zeschke Michele McCay Niyati Dhand Sherry Jones Shirley Scott Stacie Geller Stacey Chamberlain Tamela Milan-Alexander Members NOT in Attendance Bakahia Madison - Excused	Cara Bergo, IDPH Trishna Harris, IDPH Leandra Diaz, IDPH Joquine Nege, IDPH Katy Endress, IDPH Nancy Martin, IDPH Eugenia Olison, IDPH Sierra Wilson, IDPH Tonya Hedges, IDPH Trish Pitts, UIC Abstractor Meli Vargas, UIC Abstractor Cassidy Sheehan, UIC Abstractor April Caruso, APC Daniell Ashford, APC Dede Stewart, APC Connie Thompson, APC Joanne Sorce, APC Roma Allen, APC Susie Swain, APC Andrea Cross, APC Jodi Hoskins, APC Lisa Cohen, DHS

Meeting Minutes of:
ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH
MATERNAL MORTALITY REVIEW COMMITTEE- Violent Deaths MMRC-V
July 17, 2025

Introductions

The meeting was called to order by the chair at 09:02 AM. The chair welcomed the members and guests.

Motions

- Motion to approve minutes from May 15, 2025
 - 1st: Kara Driscoll, 2nd: Stacie Geller, Unanimous Approval
- Motion to close session to review the cases/ abstracts pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2© (15) (professional ethics and performance in case review) and 5 ILCS 120/2© (17) (matters protected under the Patient Safety and Quality Improvement Act of 2005, or the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA))
 - 1st Stacie Geller, 2nd Stacey Chamberlain, Unanimous
- Motion to reopen the meeting.
 - 1st: Stacie Geller, 2nd: Ann Borders, Unanimous Approval
- Motion to adjourn the meeting
 - 1st: Stacie Geller, 2nd: Tamela Milan-Alexander, Unanimous Approval

Agenda Items

- **Welcome & Introduction**
- Robin Jones welcomed all the MMRC-V members and guests.
 - Joquine Nege took the roll call of the committee members, including first time attendees.
- **Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) Updates**
 - Cara announced that the Maternal Health Birth Equity Blueprint has been developed with input from about 90 organizations and in its final stage at the governor's office. More details to come.
 - Re-writing of 640 codes and levels of care process is at its final stage of approval. Currently being reviewed by the legal department.
 - In the process of re-applying for Title -V in September
 - Code 640 Project is at its final stage of getting approved likely by the end of the year.
 - Cara reminded members about the upcoming Maternal Health summit, November 18-19, 2025. Stated that all members are going to be invited. More details to come.
 - Illinois Perinatal Regionalization Map of Hospital (Levels of Care Virtual Map) Is now available. Members are encouraged to use it and give their feedback. Updated version of the Map will soon be available.
 - E-Perinet Hospitals data system project is in progress

Announcement

- No public announcements
- **Brief Refresher on MMRC Mission & Process**
 - Cara gave a brief refresher on MMRC Mission and laid out the process of reviewing the cases. She also explained the tweak on how the committee will tailor the review process

- to make recommendations more practicable
- Robin enjoined all members to volunteer as case leaders. Also make their voices heard during case reviews.
- **Moment of Silence and Closed Session for Death Review**
 - There was a moment of silence to reflect on these mothers and their families.
 - The open meeting closed with a motion from Stacie Geller, a second from Stacey Chamberlain, and had unanimous approval.
- **Debrief/Comments**
 - The committee reviewed 8 (Eight) deaths, and 2 (two) of all the cases reviewed were pregnancy related.
 - Eugenia was wondering how she could access data information regarding maternal shelter, home or outdoor. Stacie Geller offered to share information with her.
 - Kara expressed concern about the status of MMRC with regards to the federal government cutting funds for programs. Cara stated that as far as we know, we will continue to serve as is until we hear otherwise. She also reiterated that IDPH leadership is committed to strategically plan to continue serving Illinoisans regardless of the feds funding outcome.
 - Reopen the Open Meeting a motion from Stacie Geller, a second from Ann Borders, and had unanimous approval

Next meeting is planned for September 18, 2025.

Adjournment

- Stacie Geller motioned to adjourn, Tamela-Milan-Alexander seconded, unanimous approval.