

Meeting Minutes of:

Task Force on Infant and Maternal Mortality Among African Americans (IMMT)

Programs & Best Practices Subcommittee

Date: Tuesday, July 15, 2025 | 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. | Location: WebEx

Attendees:

<u>Members in Attendance</u>	<u>IDPH</u>	<u>Guest</u>	<u>Members Not in Attendance</u>
Patricia Lee King (Lead) Joanna Su Jose Ortiz Cynthia Price	Leandra Díaz Trishna Harris Aditi Patel	Perkins, Anquenette	Excused: Ellen Mason Deanna Durica Gloria Elam Dara Gray Basley (Lead)

MOTIONS

1. Motion to approve minutes from the May 20, 2025 meeting.

1st Jose Ortiz, 2nd Cynthia Price, and Joanna Su (abstained), the group unanimously approved.

2. Motion to Adjourn.

1st Joanna Su, 2nd Jose Ortiz, the group unanimously approved. With nothing further to discuss, meeting was adjourned.

AGENDA ITEMS

CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL

The Lead, **Patricia Lee King**, called the meeting to order at approximately 11:04 A.M. Leandra Díaz conducted the roll call and asked guests to respond in the chat box with their name and association. **Quorum met.**

REVIEW/APPROVAL OF MINUTES: 5/20/25

- May 20, 2025 minutes were reviewed and voted
- 1st Jose Ortiz, 2nd Cynthia Price, and Joanna Su (abstained), the group unanimously approved.

IDPH UPDATES

- **IDPH Annual Mandatory Trainings are available now— Login: <https://OneNet.Illinois.gov/MyTraining> (5 Trainings) --Due 12/31/2025.**
- **Maternal Health Summit:** Save the Date, Nov 18-19, 2025- More details to come.
- **EMTALA** guidance has been updated, but Illinois state laws will continue to protect emergency and reproductive health services.
- **Maternal Health Blueprint:** Developed with input from over 90 organizations, is being finalized for graphic design.
- **Title V: Plan's needs assessment** will be publicly available by July 2025- highlighting its importance as it funds 60% of the IDPH MCH portfolio.
- **Budget for Fiscal Year 2026** shows Title V funding is reduced but not eliminated, with concerns over sustaining state-funded work.
- **Staffing updates** include a new team member joining to manage Title V grants, with several key positions soon to be filled to enhance program staffing.
- **Illinois Perinatal Regionalization Map of Hospitals (Levels of Care Virtual Map):** Any suggestions are welcome please email Cara.Bergo@Illinois.gov
<https://dph.illinois.gov/topics-services/life-stages-populations/maternal-child-family-health-services/perinatal-health/infant-mortality/perinatal-regionalization.html>
- **2023-2024 Report to The General Assembly: Illinois Task Force on Infant and Maternal Mortality Among African Americans**
<https://dph.illinois.gov/about/annual-reports/immt/report-20232024.html>
- **Fetal and Infant Mortality Data Report is now available:**
<https://dph.illinois.gov/content/dam/soi/en/web/idph/publications/idph/topics-and-services/life-stages-populations/maternal-child-family-health-services/maternal-health/perinatal-health/fetal-and-infant-mortality-report-2024.pdf>
- IDPH has issued a letter advocating for **Narcan** availability in hospitals as part of the Illinois DOPP program to counter opioid overdoses. Illinois Saves Overdose <https://share.google/8VbYcoZ6HSxDfg6XW>

CONTINUE TO COMPLETE REVIEW FORM FOR FAMILY CONNECTS

- Family Connects program reviewed; key articles highlighted rural implementation and evaluation findings from Goodman 2022 and Handler Zimmerman 2018 articles.
 - **Goodman study** involved 994 families in rural NC; 78% initiation and 83% completion, leading to improved maternal support and reduced infant ED visits. Positive outcomes at 6 months: increased community connections, improved safe sleep practices, fewer infant ED visits, increased maternal social support. Successfully implemented in high-poverty rural communities with broad reach.
 - **Handler Zimmerman report** focused on MIECHV-funded pilot in Peoria and Stevenson; critical success factors included partner buy-in and strong referral networks. Universal postpartum nursing program aims to connect all families with community services and integration of social determinants of health. Timeline focus: primarily postpartum with initial hospital visit and 3-week home visit. Key objectives: universal nurse visits, family needs identification, community resource connections, reduced emergency healthcare utilization. Staffing model: nurse home visitors with supervisors and community-based lead agency staff.
- The following items were added to the Family Connects form.
 - Family risk profiles documented.
 - Number of successful connections to services.
 - Parent self-report (surveys)
 - How does the community provide input on success?
 - Family Support Matrix

Next Steps:

1. **Patricia Lee King:** Reach out to administrators from Peoria, Stevenson, and Chicago Family Connects programs.
2. **Jose Ortiz:** Provide contacts and recommendations for Family Connects program representatives.
3. **Joanna Su:** Provide updated Family Connects Form with today's meeting updates.

Public Comment: No public comment provided.

Adjournment:

1st Joanna Su, 2nd Jose Ortiz, the group unanimously approved. With nothing further to discuss, meeting was adjourned.