

Meeting Minutes of:

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

Programs & Best Practices Subcommittee

Date: Tuesday, March 18, 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>
1. Dara Gray Basley (Chair) 2. Patricia Lee King (Vice-Chair) 3. Joanna Su 4. Jose Ortiz 5. Cynthia Price	1. Aditi Patel 2. Leandra Díaz 3. Sally Lemke 4. Trishna Harris	1. Myia Smith, Henry Booth House	Excused: 1. Ellen Mason 2. Gloria Elam

MOTIONS

1. **Motion to approve minutes from 11/19/2024 & 1/21/2025 meeting.**
1st Joanna Su and 2nd Cynthia Price, the group unanimously approved.
2. **Motion to approve minutes from 9/17/2024 meeting.**
1st Joanna Su and 2nd Jose Ortiz, the group unanimously approved.
3. **Motion to Adjourn.**
1st Joanna Su and 2nd Cynthia Price, the group unanimously approved.
With nothing further to discuss, meeting was adjourned.

AGENDA ITEMS

CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL

The Chair, Dara Gray Basley, called the meeting to order at approximately 11:05 A.M. Leandra Díaz conducted the roll call and asked guests to respond in the chat box with their name and association.

REVIEW/APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- Motion to approve minutes from **11/19/2024 & 1/21/2025** meeting.
1st Joanna Su and 2nd Cynthia Price, the group unanimously approved.
- Motion to approve minutes from **9/17/2024** meeting.
1st Joanna Su and 2nd Jose Ortiz, the group unanimously approved.

IDPH UPDATES

- **IDPH Job Fair:** This event will be held on **Wednesday, April 23, 2025, from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.** at the John R. Block Building on the Illinois State Fairgrounds.
- **Posting: MCH Title V Block Grant Coordinator (Public Service Administrator, Opt.1)**
https://illinois.jobs2web.com/job/Springfield-MCH-Title-V-Block-Grant-Coordinator-%28Public-Service-Administrator%2C-Opt_1%29-IL-62702-5076/1266509700/
- **Maternal Health Blueprint:** The purpose of the survey is to identify and understand the various programs and services available across the state to improve the health of Illinois' MCH population and will be a continuous effort to allow updates to the blueprint. https://uic.ca1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_aWtcnGk4FUQgrpY
- **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>
- **Birth Equity:** IDPH Awards \$4.5 Million in Grants to Support Governor Pritzker's **Birth Equity** Efforts Across Illinois: State Announces Grants to **12 Groups that Provide Innovative, Equity-Focused Maternal Care for Pregnant Illinoisans**.
[https://dph.illinois.gov/resource-center/news/2025/january/release-20250129.html#:~:text=January%209%2C%202025-IDPH%20Awards%20\\$4.5%20Million%20in%20Grants%20to%20Support,Birth%20Equity%20Efforts%20Across%20Illinois&text=CHICAGO%20%E2%80%93%20The%20Illinois%20Department%20of,Pritzker's%202024%20Birth%20Equity%20Initiative.](https://dph.illinois.gov/resource-center/news/2025/january/release-20250129.html#:~:text=January%209%2C%202025-IDPH%20Awards%20$4.5%20Million%20in%20Grants%20to%20Support,Birth%20Equity%20Efforts%20Across%20Illinois&text=CHICAGO%20%E2%80%93%20The%20Illinois%20Department%20of,Pritzker's%202024%20Birth%20Equity%20Initiative.)

IMMT Main Task Force: Memo Creation Volunteers Needed

- Volunteers were requested to assist with the writing of the memo regarding the Hospital Closures concerns.

REVIEW OF PAST PROGRAMS & BEST PRACTICES RECOMMENDATIONS

- Challenges: male involvement, data collection, outcome tracking.
- Discussion on defining criteria for impactful programs based on committee's program reviews.
- Key elements identified: **social drivers of health, trust-building, early engagement, and patient-centered program linkage.**
- Adding trust-building and relationship development to program review forms.

SUB-COMMITTEE UPDATES: THEME/FOCUS FOR 2025- 'Access'

- Discussed theme of 'Access' for 2025 focus.
- Reviewed list of programs evaluated: Family Case Management, Family Connects Illinois, Healthy Start.
- Examined on including Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting (**MIECHV**) Program.
- Better Birth Outcomes identified as a future review focus, but timing deferred to allow for program changes.
- Need for improved record-keeping and a summary table to track findings and recommendations from each program review.
- Clarification on differences between program models and funding streams (e.g., MIECHV, Nurse Family Partnership).

SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP AND RECRUITMENT

- Discussed need for more members on the subcommittee. Encouraged recruitment of new members, especially those connected to maternal child health programs. Considered diversity of roles and opinions for innovation

NEXT TOPICS/STEPS

- Gather resources for Better Birth Outcomes review, with actual review likely after July.
- Plan to create a recap document/table summarizing findings from previous program reviews for the next meetings.
- Compile and update the list of programs reviewed to ensure accurate record-keeping for future reference.

Public Comment: No public comment provided.

Adjournment

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