

## OH-CAMH Membership Update

As of Summer 2024, we have completed an update to our OH-CAMH membership list. This update involved refreshing our listserv to ensure active participation and to help identify partners who may be missing from the task force. OH-CAMH's updated membership reflects a diverse and engaged group of champions each playing a role in advancing maternal health in Ohio.

### Task Force Composition

OH-CAMH's current membership includes representatives from a broad range of organizations:

- Community Organizations (20%): essential planning partners, providing leadership in supporting workgroup facilitation.
- State Agencies (31%): representatives from state agencies providing valuable insights into statewide data, policies, and programs.
- Clinical Providers (24%): clinical professionals specializing in fields like obstetrics and gynecology, clinical psychology, and more alongside program managers.
- Local Public Health (4.2%): local public health departments, including representatives from various county health departments, contributing significantly to OH-CAMH by implementing public health initiatives.
- Advocacy Organizations (7%): advocacy groups pushing state maternal health initiatives and influencing public policies.
- Patient/Family Perspective (1.4%): patients and families with lived experience promoting their needs and stories.

## PAMR Committee Membership Open

The Pregnancy-Associated Mortality Review (PAMR) is responsible for maintaining the voluntary membership of the PAMR committee which oversees the review of each pregnancy-associated death that occurs in Ohio each year. Using their expertise, background, and lived experiences, PAMR committee members decide on questions relevant to maternal mortality including pregnancy-relatedness, causes of death, contributing factors, and preventability of the death. Every year, the PAMR staff at the Department of Children and Youth (DCY) assess the current state of the PAMR committee membership for gaps in representation and generate a new member profile. This year's member [profile](#) and application can be found [here](#). The application is open **November 8th-December 9th**, and more information about committee membership can be found on the PAMR webpage. Please reach out to [Hallie.Kerr@childrenand youth.ohio.gov](mailto:Hallie.Kerr@childrenand youth.ohio.gov) with any questions.

## **Empowering Community-Based Organizations: A Toolkit for Accessible and Equitable State Funding**

### **Strategy 2 Update**

This toolkit, developed by OH-CAMH in collaboration with community organizations, aims to address challenges faced by community-based organizations (CBOs) in accessing state funding. It focuses on creating more equitable and accessible funding opportunities to support maternal health initiatives across Ohio.

Key goals of the toolkit include:

- Expanding eligibility for maternal health funding.
- Simplifying application processes to ensure that CBOs of all sizes can access state resources.
- Offering transparent and equitable review processes.
- Providing ongoing technical assistance and support to CBOs seeking state funds.

The toolkit was informed by the experiences of Ohio CBOs and offers practical recommendations for state agencies to streamline funding access, increase awareness of opportunities, and ensure equitable consideration in the review process. By addressing these challenges, state funders can support CBOs to better serve their communities, ultimately contributing to improved maternal health outcomes throughout the state.

The toolkit is anticipated to be published soon. Thank you to all who contributed to its development.

## **DCY Tuesday Times**

The Department of Children and Youth's ongoing correspondence focuses on providing important updates for Department partners. These updates encompass practice and policy adjustments, data dashboard enhancements, funding prospects, program details, training initiatives, and various other pertinent topics. If you are interested in receiving DCY's Tuesday Times newsletter, please click [here](#) to sign up.

## Medicaid Service Updates for Pregnant and Postpartum Women

### **Doula Medicaid Coverage Began October 3rd**

Beginning in October 2024, any pregnant or postpartum woman with Medicaid coverage is now eligible to receive doula services from a Board of Nursing certified, Medicaid enrolled doula. The Ohio Department of Medicaid (ODM) is hosting online training sessions for doulas as new Medicaid providers; recordings from the September [10th](#) and [26th](#) sessions, as well as registration links for the upcoming trainings, can be found on the [ODM Doula Initiative webpage](#). If you are a doula, please refer to the [Ohio Administrative Code \(OAC\) rules](#) for more information about coverage and rates. Medicaid-enrolled members who would like to find out more about receiving doula services may reach out directly to her MCO or the Medicaid Consumer Hotline at 800-324-8680.

### **Lactation Consulting Update**

Effective October 1, ODM has implemented a rate increase and revised Ohio Administrative Code [5160-8-4 2](#), "[Lactation Consultation Services](#)" to allow additional healthcare practitioners with proper credentials to receive a separate professional payment. Refer to [Medical Transmittal Letter No. 336-24-11](#) for additional details. Payment amounts for these services can be found in Appendix DD to rule 5160-60: [Medicaid Payment](#)".

## Compelling Clicks

### **Fourth Trimester Clinic Opens at Dublin Methodist Hospital**

To address the needs of women navigating the postpartum period, healthcare providers at the clinic specialize in breastfeeding medicine and behavioral health. Outpatient services offered include lactation medicine, breastfeeding support, postpartum high blood pressure checks and management, as well as guidance on sleep, rest, nutrition, and exercise.

### **Cleveland Hospitals Embrace TeamBirth for Collaborative Maternity Care**

Cleveland-area hospitals are embracing the idea that it takes a team led by a mom to deliver a healthy baby. TeamBirth prioritizes teamwork, ensures every mom has a voice in their birth experience, and encourages caregivers to spot birthing problems early.

### **New Report from Groundwork Ohio: Addressing Racial Disparities and Years of Policy Changes in Ohio's Infant Mortality**

Groundwork Ohio encourages ongoing efforts to address these challenges and improve outcomes for Ohio's most vulnerable children. The report serves as a resource to guide future strategies for reducing infant mortality.

### **Resources from HHS Maternal Health Stakeholder Briefing**

The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Office of Intergovernmental and External Affairs (IEA) hosted a briefing on Maternal Health policies and programs. Please see the white house [fact sheet](#) for the most recent updates on the Biden-Harris blueprint to address the maternal health crisis.

### **New Facility to Address Critical Healthcare Needs for Women and Children in Southeast Ohio**

Southeast Ohio's first women and children's hospital, set to open in 2026, will address critical maternity care gaps in the region. Serving 12 counties, the hospital will include a NICU, reducing the need for families to travel long distances for specialized care.