

Meeting Minutes: Commission on Maternal and Infant Health

Date: February 7, 2025

Time: 5:00 PM - 6:30 PM

Location: Virtual via Microsoft Teams

1. Welcome and Introductions

- Dr. Champa Woodham welcomed attendees.
 - Introductions were made, including members not present at the January meeting.
-

2. Review and Debrief of January Meeting Minutes

- Members discussed key takeaways from the last meeting.
 - No major omissions were identified from the previous minutes.
-

3. Data Needs to Inform Priorities

- Members discussed necessary data to guide the Commission's priorities.
- Data Needs and Potential Sources
 - Maternal mortality and morbidity (DPH)
 - County/ zipcode level data
 - RPC system- Types of patients they see
 - Infant mortality and morbidity through the first year of life (DPH/March of Dimes)
 - Workforce mapping
 - Statewide incentive programs and available tax credits/scholarships
 - Workforce board
 - Maternal vulnerability index and care facility distribution (DPH hospital discharge data)
 - Education needs for free-standing EDs
 - Maternal substance use
 - Neonatal abstinence syndrome (NAS)
 - Maternal mental health (DPH)
 - Breastfeeding data, pump access, and donor breast milk programs (GA AAP)

4. Current Initiatives Addressing Maternal and Infant Health

- A brainstorming session identified key initiatives the group would like to learn more about to provide insight into some of the topics they will be gathering data on:
 - Maternal Mortality and Morbidity: GaPQC, MCG CardioOB program and Food is Medicine, Morehouse School of Medicine Maternal Health Initiatives, Hope for GA Moms, Rural Health Collaborative; Healthy Mothers Healthy Babies, Perinatal Health Partnership, Levels of Care (DPH/DCH)
 - Infant mortality and morbidity through the first year of life: DPH safe sleep and car seat programs, NEC researchers, Perinatal Health Partnership, Peds Cards data, Vaccine-preventable causes
 - Maternal mental health/Maternal substance use: Peace for Moms
 - Lived Experience: Include patients with lived experience (McKayla Walker was recommended)
 - Neonatal abstinence syndrome (NAS): NAS researchers
 - Breastfeeding: GaPQC, Med Milk (Claire Eden was recommended)
 - Programs to address access: Mercer Rural Health Initiative, telehealth (MCG virtual care program), UGA extension, Moms Heart Matters
 - Child with special needs: Katie Beckett program
-

5. Public Comment Period

- Public members shared concerns and recommendations:
 - **Stephanie Aristide (Black Mamas Matter Alliance):** Is available to provide data and insights on maternal health and lived experiences.
 - **Claire Eden:** Advocated for centralized data on home visiting programs for newborns/NICU graduates.
-

7. Closing Remarks and Next Steps

- Dr. Woodham summarized discussions and outlined next steps.
- Next meeting will focus on data and will be held virtually on April 21 from 5:00pm-6:30pm.
- Meeting adjourned at **6:30 PM**.