Wyoming Maternal and Child Health Unit
Quarterly Newsletter - January 2020

Dear Partners,

Happy New Year! Please find below a handful of announcements and updates from the Maternal and Child Health (MCH) Unit at the Wyoming Department of Health. As always, please let us know how we can improve our communication and partnership with you. And please feel free to share this newsletter with your broader networks.

We look forward to continuing to partner with you in 2020 to achieve our mission of improving the health of Wyoming families and communities.

Danielle Marks
MCH Unit Manager

Announcements

Staff Update
Please join us in welcoming Sapphire Heien, MCH Grants and Contracts Specialist and Title V Block Grant Coordinator. Sapphire holds a B.A. in English and Professional Writing and a Graduate Certificate in Publishing. She has worked for the Wyoming Department of Health for two-and-a-half years and is excited to use her skills to impact the health of families in MCH. Sapphire also moonlights as a freelance writer and editor, is a super nerd into cosplaying and Dungeons & Dragons, and also enjoys reading, crafts, and hiking. Sapphire can be contacted at sapphire.heien1@wyo.gov or 307-777-6921.

Save the Date: MCH Needs Assessment Update Webinar
The MCH Unit continues to work on the State's 2021-2025 MCH Needs Assessment. We have narrowed potential priority topic areas through review of data, discussions with partners, and research on available strategies. Please join us virtually on Monday, February 10, 2020 to learn more about our 2021-2025 draft priorities and how you can be involved in our next phase of strategic planning. To register for this virtual webinar, please visit: https://zoom.us/meeting/register/uZwpde-hpjsuLh5kms2lsHotdgiyt1iGhw.

For future needs assessment updates, please visit
MCH Quarterly Highlight: Wyoming Receives CDC Funding to Establish a Cross-State (Utah/Wyoming) Maternal Mortality Review Committee

The Wyoming Department of Health, MCH Unit, in partnership with the Utah Department of Health, was awarded a five-year CDC grant to establish a cross-state Maternal Mortality Review Committee. This funding comes through the Enhancing Reviews and Surveillance of Maternal Mortality (ERASE MM) Program, which was authorized by the Preventing Maternal Deaths Act of 2018. The MCH Unit is honored by the opportunity to strengthen our cross-state partnerships to improve the health of women and mothers in Wyoming. Our application was successful in large part due to the support of partners like you. Thank you to all those who expressed interest in this project and pledged support during the application process!

The MCH Unit is working with the Utah Department of Health to establish a process for a biannual review of Wyoming maternal deaths as part of Utah’s existing Perinatal Mortality Review Committee. The goal is to review 2017-2019 maternal deaths within the first year of funding. A contract is underway for a Wyoming abstractor.

To stay connected on our progress and learn about upcoming partnership opportunities, please consider joining our quarterly Wyoming Perinatal Quality Collaborative meetings and signing up for the Maternal Mortality Subcommittee. For more information, please contact Eighmey Zeeck, Women and Infant Health Program Manager, at eighmey.zeeck@wyo.gov.

MCH Program Updates

Women and Infant Health Program
The Wyoming Perinatal Quality Collaborative elected its first Chair, Erin McKinney. Erin is the current Clinical Director of Women & Children’s Services at Cheyenne Regional Medical Center in Cheyenne. Erin began her role as Chair on January 1, 2020. If you would like to learn more about the Wyoming Perinatal Quality Collaborative, please contact Eighmey Zeeck at eighmey.zeeck@wyo.gov.

Child Health Program
In January 2020, the MCH Unit will convene providers, stakeholders, and consumers to assess interest in establishing a statewide Bright Futures Implementation Task Force. Bright Futures Guidelines, created by the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP), provide a comprehensive, age-appropriate standard of care that all child-serving providers can follow. The Task Force will work on improving implementation of these standards, as well as well visit rates. If you are interested in learning more, please contact Jamin Johnson at jamin.johnson1@wyo.gov and J.D. Dillon at jd.dillon@wyo.gov.

Youth and Young Adult Health Program
In 2020, the Youth and Young Adult Health Program will support the development of a statewide youth council to bring youth voices and experience together with health programs promoting success, increased engagement, and quality improvement. In addition, the program continues to work with the University of Michigan, Adolescent...
Health Initiative and selected clinics to implement strategies focused on increasing adolescent well visits, with work set to begin in February 2020. If you are interested in learning more about these projects, please contact Rachel Barber at rachel.barber@wyo.gov.

Children's Special Health Program
Vicky Garcia, Children’s Special Health Benefits & Eligibility Specialist, retired in December 2019 after serving children and youth with special healthcare needs and their families for forty years. Vicky passionately and tirelessly supported children and their families as they navigated complex healthcare systems. She set a lasting example for the MCH team and her partners to follow. Vicky will be dearly missed. News about Vicky’s replacement will be shared in the next quarterly newsletter. Please contact Jamin Johnson at jamin.johnson1@wyo.gov with any questions/concerns during this transition.

Newborn Screening Program
The Wyoming Newborn Screening Advisory Committee recently voted to add spinal muscular atrophy (SMA) to the Wyoming Newborn Screening Panel. SMA is a rare genetic condition affecting one in 10,000 live births. Early identification, diagnosis, and treatment improves motor outcomes and lowers the risk of death or needing a ventilator in people with SMA. Emergency rules adding SMA to the panel were signed on December 31, 2019 and testing began on January 1, 2020. For more information, please visit wynewbornscreening.org or contact Carleigh Soule, Newborn Screening and Genetics Coordinator, at carleigh.soule@wyo.gov.

Wyoming Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System (PRAMS) Program
Wyoming PRAMS recently published an updated Infant Safety Fact Sheet, which examines infant sleep environments in Wyoming from 2016 to 2018, as well as provider practices in educating mothers about safe sleep practices and environments. It was found that Wyoming exceeds the National Healthy People 2020 goal, with 85.5% of infants being put to sleep on their backs. To learn more about Wyoming PRAMS and keep up-to-date on Wyoming PRAMS data, visit our website: https://health.wyo.gov/publichealth/chronic-disease-and-maternal-child-health-epidemiology-unit/mch-epi/

Training Opportunities
A Long-Acting Reversible Contraception Provider Training offered by the National Clinical Training Center for Family Planning will be held in Casper, WY on January 30-31, 2020. To register, click here.

THIS WEEK! A Child Passenger Safety Class will be held in Casper, WY on January 14-17, 2020. For more information, please contact Stephanie Heitsch at heitschs@gmail.com.
Resources

Please encourage your partners and clients to download the My 307 Wellness smartphone app by texting "Family" to 307-317-0819. My 307 Wellness is an interactive app with reliable, credible health information for individuals and families. You can track health milestones and immunizations, and find information about important screenings and resources available in your community.

Thank you for your partnership!

For general questions or comments, please contact Sapphire Heien at sapphire.heien1@wyo.gov and she will direct you to the appropriate MCH staff person.

Wyoming MCH

Wyoming MCH envisions a Wyoming where all families and communities are healthy and thriving.

Data driven - Engagement - Population Health - Health Equity - Life Course Perspective - Sustainability