NCSL MCH Fellows Meeting
Maternal and Child Health State and Federal Policy

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Michael D. Warren, MD MPH FAAP
Associate Administrator
Maternal and Child Health Bureau (MCHB)

Vision: Healthy Communities, Healthy People
Mission:
Improve the health and well-being of America’s mothers, children, and families.
Paradigm for Improving Maternal and Child Health

Accelerate

Upstream

Together
ACCELERATE: Maternal Health Is a Priority

700
pregnancy-related deaths annually

25,000
delivery hospitalizations with a severe maternal morbidity diagnosis (not including transfusion)

3X
higher rates of death for Black and American Indian/Alaska Native women

60%
of deaths preventable
UPSTREAM: Life Course Approach

UPSTREAM: More Than Just Health Care

Health care accounts for only 10-20% of overall health
TOGETHER: Strategic Partnerships

- Federal Partners
- Communities
- States
- Non-governmental Organizations
- Families & Consumers
- Academic Partners
Maternal and Child Health and COVID-19
Impact of COVID on Maternal and Child Health

• Fear and risk of exposure to coronavirus
• Reduced access/utilization of well-child, perinatal, and well-woman care
• Altered labor & delivery care for pregnant women
• Altered systems of care for children and youth with special health care needs
• Loss of community supports
• Social isolation & increased mental health needs
• Increased socioeconomic stressors & family care needs
• Intimate partner violence
• Exacerbated health disparities (socioeconomic, racial/ethnic, rural, etc.)

Impacts across the life course that can affect generations to come
MCHB Response

- Technical assistance to grantees
- Grant flexibilities
- Collaboration
- Sharing resources
$15M in Telehealth Funds for MCH

- $15 million to increase telehealth access and infrastructure for providers and families to help prevent and respond to COVID-19
- Funded through the 2020 Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act
Considerations for States

1) Consider unique needs of already vulnerable populations

2) Support ongoing provision of primary and preventive care, particularly for MCH populations

3) Explore long-term strategies for bolstering readiness for the next crisis

• Resources
  - Title V MCH Services Block Grant Information System (TVIS)
    - State Contacts and Snapshot – Get to know your Title V/MCH Director!
  - National Survey of Children’s Health
Contact Information

Michael D. Warren, MD MPH FAAP
Associate Administrator
Maternal and Child Health Bureau (MCHB)
Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA)
Web: mchb.hrsa.gov
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