

Dear Colleagues,

I am excited to announce new awards totaling \$8.2 million to 27 statewide [Perinatal Quality Collaboratives](#) (PQCs) and the [National Network of Perinatal Quality Collaboratives](#) (NNPQC), with an emphasis on achieving equity in care and outcomes. This more than doubles CDC's funding of this critical work.

CDC recognizes the unique and important roles PQCs have in understanding the drivers of adverse pregnancy outcomes and in developing recommendations designed to equitably improve maternal and infant health through quality improvement efforts. This significant expansion of CDC support for PQCs builds capacity to improve the quality of perinatal care for mothers and babies in their states, including efforts to:

- Reduce preterm births.
- Reduce severe pregnancy complications associated with high blood pressure and hemorrhage.
- Reduce racial/ethnic and geographic disparities.
- Reduce cesarean births among low-risk pregnant women.
- Improve screening and treatment for mothers with substance use disorder and newborns with neonatal abstinence syndrome.

Last week, CDC released [data](#) from Maternal Mortality Review Committees (MMRCs) that underscored the need for quality improvement initiatives in states, hospitals, and communities to ensure all people who are pregnant or postpartum receive the care they need. Collaboration between MMRCs and PQCs is a critical step in improving maternal health and reducing inequities across the country. Active MMRC/PQC collaboration will help translate state and local clinical recommendations into action and will ultimately work to reduce overall rates of maternal morbidity and mortality and promote improved population health for all during and after pregnancy.

CDC is committed to addressing health disparities and improving outcomes for every mother and child; and we are very excited to expand support for PQCs as they continue to conduct critical work. For more information, see [here](#).

We encourage you to share this announcement with your networks.

Warm regards,

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