



MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH REVIEW OF
MATERNAL HEALTH SERVICES, 2023
Recommendations and Action Items

RECOMMENDATIONS MIRRORING EXISTING COMMISSION PRIORITIES

- **Birth Centers and Midwives:** updating regulations, improving level of reimbursement, and developing pathways for CPM's
- **Doula workforce:** collaborating with doulas to create a pathway to formal certification
- **Home visiting:** working with providers, insurance carriers, and others to expand the reach of universal postpartum home visiting
- **Fetal and Infant Mortality Review & Count the Kicks:** conducting active, population-based surveillance for stillbirths, which would provide data to a FIMR, and supporting an annual Count the Kicks campaign for prevention

ADDITIONAL RECOMMENDATIONS OF NOTE

- **Levels of Maternal Care (LoMC):** implement a tiered system defining personnel and resources for the provision of maternal care at each level, to include birth centers at the lowest tier (i.e. for the lowest-risk patients/births)
- **Community health centers:** all federally qualified health centers in MA to provide prenatal and postnatal care on site
- **Maternal Mortality and Morbidity Review Committee:** statutory expansion of MMMRC's ability to collect relevant information from any public and private agency or individual
- **Parenthood and Fatherhood Experiences Survey:** annual reporting from survey to support engagement and partnership with families, fathers, and other second parents in order to improve maternal and child health
- **Outpatient intensive or partial hospitalization program:** explore establishment and ongoing implementation of Outpatient Intensive or Partial Hospitalization programs and develop inpatient behavioral health programs where infants can board with their mother during mental health treatment

QUESTIONS AND DISCUSSION