



State of Louisiana

Louisiana Department of Health Office of the Secretary

LOUISIANA COMMISSION ON PERINATAL CARE AND PREVENTION OF INFANT MORTALITY

July 20, 2023 1:00 PM-3:00 PM

Link to Informal Workgroup Discussion:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86394452034>

Phone #: 602-333-0032

Conference Code: 453592

Members present: Dr. Karli Boggs, Dr. Rodney Wise, Dr. Steve Spedale, Dr. Scott Barrilleaux, Amy Zapata

Members absent: Senator Regina Barrow, Dr. Joseph Biggio, Rep. Rhonda Butler, Dr. Courtney Campbell, Aundria Cannon, Leslie Lewis, Erika Moss, Dr. Amarjit Nijjar, Dr. Marshall St. Amant, Emily Stevens

Guests present: Rachelle Boudreaux, Becky Majdoch, Berkley Durbin, Elizabeth Lindsay, Leyla Scheuring, Lyn Kieltyka, Jessica Wilkes, Marci Brewer, Paulette Carter, Aimee, Shane Bates

A. Workgroup Discussion

- a. Person Power
 - i. Chair: Dr. Steve Spedale
 - ii. Charge: focus on addressing provider/specialist provider shortages throughout the state.
 - iii. Action Steps: Coordinate efforts to introduce collaboration between physicians and midwives to address patient needs; utilization of midwifery services for low-risk pregnancies rather than specialists to reduce service gap of providers.
- b. Care Coordination
 - i. Co-Chairs: Dr. Karli Boggs & Dr. Rodney Wise
 - ii. Charge: focus on perinatal & neonatal side, MCOs, and developing questions to address managed care plans (review existing legal requirements).
 - iii. Action Steps: Workgroup members will draft specific questions for MCOs to answer during presentation to address specific barriers to care coordination for both the patient-facing side and physician side.
- c. Congenital Syphilis
 - i. Chair: Dr. Scott Barrilleaux
 - ii. Charge: focus on the root cause of nationwide surge in cases of congenital syphilis and develop recommendations to connect patients with resources.
 - iii. Action Steps: Review legislation established in RS 40:1121.21 regarding 3rd trimester screenings and address barriers to application on the physician side.
- d. Mental Health
 - i. Co-Chairs: Marci Brewer & Paulette Carter
 - ii. Charge: focus on substance use populations and postpartum populations to review what resources are available and whether or not they are accessible to patients; additional provider education and training on resources and care coordination of mental health resources.

- iii. Action Steps: Review what are standing laws for what is or is not required for mental health screenings and the timing of screenings and consider resources and access to resources in care deserts.

B. Participation

- a. Members are required to participate in workgroups, but guests of the Perinatal Commission may also participate in workgroups. Members will be expected to sign up for a workgroup by Friday, July 28, 2023, or they will be assigned to a workgroup.
- b. Members and guests agreed that non-members were able to chair workgroups, and volunteer chairs and co-chairs were documented.
- c. Members and guests recommended extending invitations to participate in various workgroups to additional stakeholders, community partners, and patients with lived experiences.

C. Timeline for Workgroups

- a. The suggested timeline for workgroup activities is that workgroup activities would expire in December 2024.
 - i. Once expired, the Commission would vote to re-establish workgroups.

D. Workgroup Expectations

- a. Workgroups will be expected to convene prior to the next regularly scheduled Perinatal Commission meeting on September 21, 2023.
- b. Workgroup chairs and co-chair will be expected to provide workgroup updates during each regularly scheduled Perinatal Commission.
 - i. Workgroups will be provided a template for reporting to the commission for updates to maintain a record of efforts.
 - ii. Workgroups will be expected to submit a summary of findings halfway through.
- c. Quarterly support calls will be held for chairs and co-chairs of workgroups to meet with the chair, vice-chair, and BFH support of the Perinatal Commission for support with workgroup activities to ensure that workgroups are meeting and fulfilling their charges.
- d. Workgroups will be expected to provide 3-5 recommendations to the Commission that will then be shared in a report to the legislature and Governor.
 - i. Members also suggested that this information could be presented to legislators on behalf of the Commission during legislative session during a committee hearing.

E. Follow-Up

- a. A final roster of workgroup members will be shared once all members are assigned to a workgroup on Friday, July 28, 2023.
 - i. Guests will still be able to sign up to participate in workgroups as available.
- b. Additional information about timelines, expectations, and workgroup structure will be shared as available to ensure that workgroup chairs and co-chairs are able to meet prior to the September Commission meeting.
- c. Staff with the Bureau of Family Health will provide updates on whether or not the workgroups are subject to Open Meetings Law or if they are able to meet virtually prior to the September Commission Meeting.