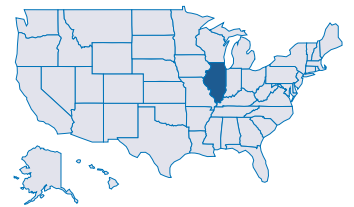


Innovations to ImPRrOve Maternal OuTcomEs in Illinois



TASK FORCE GOALS

The **Illinois Maternal Health Task Force** aims to provide leadership for developing statewide strategies to reduce maternal morbidity and mortality and to achieve maternal health equity by eliminating disparities and improving the overall health of women, pregnant persons, and families in Illinois. Their objectives are to:



Expand coordination of services prior to, during, and after pregnancy.



Ensure all pregnant and postpartum persons have equitable access to quality care and disseminate information on resources, healthcare services, and patients' rights to pregnant persons, families, and communities.



Address social and systemic issues that alter all persons' ability to be healthy across the reproductive continuum.



Increase awareness, access, and use of maternal health data systems and resources.

INNOVATIONS

The **UI Health Two-Generation Clinic (launched in October 2020)** is an innovative, integrated clinic providing wraparound care. Services include primary care, social and behavioral health screening, counseling, and more for both postpartum women and their children through the University of Illinois Hospital & Health Sciences System. All women are screened for depression upon admittance, annually, and as needed; all women with identified needs receive follow-up care with an in-house social worker or psychiatrist.

I PROMOTE-IL conducted the Illinois Maternal Health Digital Storytelling Project to elevate the voices of those who have experienced complications and challenges during pregnancy, labor and delivery, and postpartum. Ten digital stories have been added to the I PROMOTE-IL website. In October 2023, the program published a facilitation guide to accompany the Illinois Maternal Health Digital Storytelling Project. I PROMOTE-IL hosted several training sessions on the guide with its partners. As of March 2024, 26 partners attended a training session, and 29 partners have downloaded the facilitation guide.



I PROMOTE-IL supports training providers on maternal health best practices. Through its partnerships with Illinois DocAssist (IDA) and ten Administrative Perinatal Centers (APCs), I PROMOTE-IL aims to expand psychiatric training, education, and consultation to address perinatal behavioral health in Illinois. IDA trained a total of 254 providers on depression, substance use, and anxiety via online content or through live trainings at hospitals. Providers completing the training received Continuing Medical Education credit.



I PROMOTE-IL partnered with the UIC Center for Research on Women and Gender (CRWG) to develop the Maternal Health ED Toolkit for Emergency Departments (ED Toolkit) based on findings from the 2021 Illinois Maternal Morbidity and Mortality Report that two-thirds of people

who experienced a pregnancy-related death had at least one ED visit during pregnancy or postpartum.^{††} I PROMOTE-IL and CRWG convened a workgroup of over 40 stakeholders to develop the ED Toolkit. The toolkit includes training for emergency department providers to recognize and treat pregnant and postpartum patients. I PROMOTE-IL implemented a pilot of the ED Toolkit in six hospitals; 246 providers have completed the training within the toolkit as of March 2024.

HEALTH EQUITY

I PROMOTE-IL has expanded access to care for postpartum women and their infants by opening a second Two-Generation Clinic for patients who reside in the Southside of Chicago. As of September 2023, there were 112 maternal patients admitted to both clinics since the first clinic's opening. In a patient satisfaction survey, all respondents indicated they would recommend the UI Health Two-Generation Clinic to a friend or relative.

I PROMOTE-IL is supporting a hospital-based statewide Birth Equity Initiative with the ILPQC.

The aim of the Birth Equity Initiative is to improve birth equity by increasing the proportion of women reporting respectful care and to link women to resources and support for addressing challenges related to social determinants of health. As of September 2023, 85% of birthing hospitals in Illinois are participating in the Birth Equity Initiative. Over 90% of staff at participating hospitals have received implicit bias and respectful care training.



The Innovations to ImPRrOve Maternal OuTcomEs in Illinois (I PROMOTE-IL) program works to address the needs of pregnant and postpartum individuals in Illinois through coordination of maternal health stakeholders, improvements in state-level data and surveillance, and a variety of innovative training and service delivery projects.

MATERNAL HEALTH IN ILLINOIS

113 pregnancy-related deaths** (2018-2021, IL MMRC Report)

195 severe maternal morbidity events per 10,000 delivery hospitalizations*** (2022)

WHO IS INVOLVED

Funded Organization

University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC)

Maternal Health Task Force

Illinois Maternal Health Taskforce

Key Partners[†]

- Illinois Department of Public Health, Office of Women's Health and Family Services/ Title V
- Illinois Administrative Perinatal Centers
- Illinois DocAssist
- Illinois Perinatal Quality Collaborative (ILPQC)

“ [Describing the Two-Generation Clinic] We have a holistic approach to meeting the family's needs. We don't work on the system of having an identified single patient. The whole family is the patient and anyone within the family can get the support they need. ”

I PROMOTE-IL TEAM MEMBER

For more information, please contact IPROMOTE-IL@uic.edu.



Footnotes

* HRSA funds state-level organizations through the State Maternal Health Innovation Program to strengthen state-level capacity to improve maternal health outcomes. Organizations in the following nine states were funded by the State Maternal Health Innovation Program in 2019: AZ, IL, IA, MD, MT, NJ, NC, OH, and OK.

** Pregnancy-related death is defined as the death of a woman while pregnant or within 1 year of the end of pregnancy from any cause related to or aggravated by the pregnancy.

*** Severe maternal morbidity is defined as unexpected outcomes of labor and delivery that result in significant short- or long-term consequences to a woman's health, including blood transfusions.

[†] The key partners listed in this fact sheet are organizations that assist University of Illinois at Chicago in the implementation of the I PROMOTE-IL Program. These were identified by reviewing program documents.

^{††} Illinois Department of Public Health, Illinois Maternal Morbidity and Mortality Report, 2021 April.