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Home Visiting- One Part of a System of Care
Maternal Child Health Bureau’s mission is to protect, promote and improve the health and well-being of all women, newborns, children and adolescents in Maryland.

Maternal, Infant and Early Childhood Home Visiting (MIECHV) Program was developed to expand home visiting practice in at-risk communities nationwide.

Needs that women have that can be addressed through home visiting include, but are not limited to: assistance in breastfeeding, assistance in how to care for their babies, promotion of positive parenting techniques, goal setting for developmental milestones and setting education goals for both mother and baby.
Methods/approach

1. Questions were brainstormed and agreed upon by consensus with members of MCHB to ask members at the nine town hall meetings scheduled to occur in Spring 2019.
2. Questions were incorporated in an online or paper survey sent to all registered attendees of the town hall meetings for completion in the final 15 minutes of the meeting.
3. Survey answers were collected, recorded and aggregated for qualitative analysis.
4. Responses from each of the town hall meeting sites were summarized to capture community needs to incorporation in the 2019 needs assessment.

Special Attention to Questions that were...
• Sensitive to language used, ensure it is easy to understand
• Open-ended to allow for personal anecdotes
• Objective
Findings: Town Hall Meeting Survey Questions

In your opinion, what populations are not reached by current home visiting programs?

- Vulnerable Populations (8)
- Families with Substance Use Disorders (16)
- Families with Mental Health Needs (10)
- Do Not Know (4)
- Other (13)

What are some reasons you believe populations are not reached in terms of home visits?

- Parents fear judgment from home visitors / Stigma (7)
- Inadequate Resources/ Funding (7)
- Lack of motivation/ interest of participants (5)
- Increase awareness of services for parents (4)
- Inadequate Resources/ Funding (7)
- Other (6)

What do you believe are your community's strengths?

- Good Collaboration (18)
- Strong School/ Students/ Resources (7)
- High Quality of Care (4)
- Need Coordination of Services (2)
- Concerns Regarding HV Utilization (2)
Findings:
Maternal-Child Health Indicator Map
Limitations and challenges

• Instructions in the form of the federal Supplemental Information Request (SIR) was anticipated in October 2018, but the SIR was not received until January 9, 2019.

• Survey data collected from town hall meetings were limited to individuals who could physically come to one of the nine the town hall meetings at the designated times and locations in various counties in Maryland.
Lessons Learned

It’s important to stay flexible with your deadlines because the deadlines can change.

Maryland Department of Health is one organization that relies on and collaborates with other community organizations.

Maintaining healthy relationships among leaders in these organizations is very important to avoid working in silos.
Policy and Practice Implications

• Needs assessment has the potential to make meaningful impact on future **funding** for evidence-based home visiting

• This needs assessment update provides valuable insight into **groups in Maryland who are greatest need** of home visiting services.

• informs what resources will need to be allocated to **appropriately train home visitors** to identify, **educate and refer** women with addiction during their MCH home visits
References


3. Affordable care act maternal, infant and early childhood home visiting program response to supplemental information request #1 for the submission Maryland. Maryland's statewide needs assessment.; Maryland Department of Health. 2010:1-91.


Thank You!

Maternal and Child Health Bureau: Mary, Colleen, Dona, Maelondy, Jarvis, Maggie

PHASE: Beth Resnick, PhD and Paulani Mui, MPH

Please let me know if you have questions!