

Purpose

To improve awareness of and access to effective contraceptive methods for Ohioans as a priority to enhance infant vitality and women’s health.

Featured Topics

1. Infant Mortality Prevention, *Ryan Adcock, Cradle Cincinnati*

- LARC access is a key element of Cradle Cincinnati’s strategic plan
- Deep neighborhood-level engagement in 3 places and have been able to move the dial on decreasing preterm birth. Looking to scale it up to 12 additional neighborhoods. Check out the work in a white paper [here](#).
- Strong emphasis on addressing implicit bias in healthcare, beginning with prenatal care.
- There is hope in the form of multiple promising practices and initiatives to address these big problems.
- Focus on centering Black women in this work.
- Queens Village model: Incredibly valuable during pandemic as well.
- Policy priorities: Earned Income Tax Credit, non-emergency medical transport, group prenatal care, expanded home visitation.

Find the [slide deck online here](#) (credit Josselyn Okorodudu for slide content).

2. OPAS Data and Dashboard, *Michelle Menegay, Ohio Colleges of Medicine Government Resource Center*

- User-friendly Dashboard gives public access to the OPAS data in support of partners. View OPAS questionnaires online [here](#).
- <https://grcapps.osu.edu/opas/>
- Dashboard includes 100+ measures, and allows user to select indicator category and individual indicators (check out Healthcare Access>Postpartum birth control use).
- Dashboard also offers county-level estimates for Franklin, Hamilton, and Cuyahoga counties. It also offers OEI and non-OEI county options. GRC is working on small-area estimation to expand the granularity.
- Hover over items on the charts to see details about the data and confidence intervals.
- The “Indicator Reference” button downloads a Dashboard Crosswalk Excel sheet that allows users to see full set of indicators and understand which ones appeared in which surveys.

Participants

- Columbus Public Health: Jo Taylor
- CelebrateOne: Priyam Chokshi
- Cradle Cincinnati: Jessica Seeberger, Ryan Adcock
- Ohio Association of Community Health Centers: Ashley Ballard
- Ohio Colleges of Medicine Government Resource Center: Michelle Menegay
- Ohio Department of Health: Katherine Dean
- Ohio Department of Medicaid: Traci Bell-Thomas
- Ohio Perinatal Quality Collaborative: Karen Hughes
- The Center for Community Solutions: Tara Britton, Hope Lane
- The Ohio State University College of Public Health: Saira Nawaz
- March of Dimes: Lisa Holloway
- Ohio Chapter, American Academy of Pediatrics: Kristen Fluit
- Queens Village: Josselyn Okorodudu
- Advocacy & Communication Solutions: Scarlett Boudier
- Facilitator: Lauren Sogor, Advocacy & Communication Solutions

Participant Updates

Please visit the [Google Sheet Action Plan](#) to view the updates that were shared during the April meeting; you are welcome to edit directly into the sheet. The red cells need to be updated. **Please take a few minutes to review and if needed, update your organization's work.**

State Policy Updates

Below is a brief overview of legislation pertaining to women's reproductive health introduced as of March 31, 2020 by members of both the Ohio House and the Ohio Senate of the 133rd General Assembly which began on January 1, 2019 and goes through December 31, 2020. While every bill is not directly related to LARC or contraceptives generally, we provided some additional bills we thought folks may be interested in given their work in public health excluding any abortion related legislation.

House Bill 11 – *Introduced by Representatives Gayle Manning (R-N. Ridgeville) and Stephanie Howse (D-Cleveland)*

- Requires health plans (including state employee health care benefits, and Medicaid) to cover certain tobacco cessation and medication services
- Requires ODH to establish a grant program for group-based prenatal health care services to pregnant Medicaid recipients residing in areas of the state with high preterm birth rates
- Requires ODM to establish a dental program under which Medicaid recipients may receive two dental cleanings a year
- Requires ODH to develop educational materials concerning lead-based paint and to distribute the materials to families that participate in the Help Me Grow Program and reside in homes built before 1979
- Passed the Ohio House 93-0 on 6/20/2019, currently in the Senate Health, Human Services and Medicaid Committee where its last hearing was 11/13/2019

House Bill 40 – *Introduced by Representatives Thomas West (D-Canton) and Tavia Galonski (D-Akron)*

- Requires anyone who provides prenatal care to a pregnant woman to test her for HIV, syphilis and gonorrhea at certain times during the pregnancy
- Specifies that a pregnant woman may refuse testing
- Currently in the House Health Committee where it received its last hearing (opponent) on 11/19/2019. Note – ACOG are opponents

House Bill 184 – *Introduced by Representative Michele Lepore-Hagan (D-Youngstown)*

- Addresses health insurance coverage of contraceptives
 - Prohibits any health insurer that covers prescription drugs from excluding or limiting coverage of prescription contraceptives
 - Prohibits a health insurer from imposing a PA requirement for a prescription FDA-approved IUD or implantable rod
 - Requires insurers to provide coverage for dispensing a 6-month supply of a contraceptive drug or device
- Access to contraceptives in pharmacies
 - Requires a pharmacy that stocks contraceptives to ensure they are available without delay
 - Requires the State Board of Pharmacy to adopt rules to specify a protocol under which pharmacists may dispense contraceptive patches and birth control pills without a prescription
- Sexual health education

- Creates an Ohio Teen Pregnancy Prevention Task Force
- Establishes a standard of care for victims of sexual offenses
- Assigned to House Health Committee where the first and only hearing was on 9/10/2019

House Bill 435 – *Introduced by Representative Erica Crawley (D-Columbus)*

- Establishes the “Save Our Mothers Act” for the purpose of establishing continuing education requirements for birthing facility personnel and an initiative to improve birth equity, reduce peripartum racial and ethnic disparities and address implicit bias in the healthcare system
- Referred to the House Health Committee, no hearing yet

House Bill 554 – *Introduced by Representatives Susan Manchester (R-Waynesfield) and Kristin Boggs (D-Columbus)*

- Authorize a pregnant minor to consent to receive health care to maintain or improve her life or the life of the unborn child she is carrying
- Introduced on 3/16/2020, no committee assignment yet

Senate Bill 18 – *Introduced by Senators Nicki Antonio (D-Lakewood) and Peggy Lehner (R-Dayton)*

- Generally prohibits the use of restraints on pregnant inmates during pregnancy, hospital transport, labor, delivery or postpartum recovery.
- Passed the Ohio Senate on 11/13/2019 by 31-0, currently awaiting action by the Ohio House

Senate Bill 121 – *Introduced by Senators Vernon Sykes (D-Akron) and Stephanie Kunze (R-Columbus)*

- Requires the State Board of Education to develop and adopt health education standards for grades K-12 health education
- Currently being heard in the Senate Education Committee, last hearing was 12/3/2019

Senate Bill 260 – *Introduced by Senator Stephen Huffman (R-Dayton)*

- Prohibits pregnant women from receiving abortion-inducing drugs via telehealth. *Included because unsure if this will be expanded and amended to include birth control as the bill continues forward
- Passed the Ohio Senate 20-9 on 3/4/2020, awaiting action from the Ohio House

Up Next

- The next LARC Access Ohio meeting will be June 18, 2020. TBD if it will be in person in Columbus or conducted virtually via Zoom.

Thank you to our supporters!

