

The Maternal and Child Health (MCH) team within the Division of Integrated Health and Policy Research (IHPR) at the University of South Carolina's Institute for Families in Society is committed to enhancing maternal and newborn health through evaluation, training, program and policy innovation, and impactful community engagement. Our work integrates data science, data visualization, and health services and health policy research to improve outcomes for mothers, infants, and families across South Carolina.

We bring deep expertise in maternal and child health, program evaluation, implementation science, applied research, and healthcare quality improvement and efficiency.



### **Maternal Health Innovation Collaborative**

This SC Department of Public Health initiative builds networks and innovations to improve maternal health statewide. Our team provides enhanced data capacity and geospatial data analysis, evaluation, technical assistance, and support for community engagement, training, and resources.



### **Postpartum Screening Research**

This MUSC randomized controlled study examines the effectiveness of enhanced care coordination and screening with postpartum women through text messaging compared to standard postpartum care. In this initiative, our team confirms eligibility for the study and provides data related to emergency department and inpatient hospital use, access to postpartum and primary care, healthcare risk, and maternal vulnerability.



### **Medicaid Doula Care Research**

This initiative investigates how Medicaid-covered doula services impact maternal and infant health outcomes across six states in partnership with AcademyHealth. Our team supports this initiative by connecting doulas and clients to qualitative researchers, implementation policy science, and outcome analysis.



### **South Carolina Birth Outcomes Initiative (SCBOI)**

This SC Department of Health & Human Services (SCDHHS) initiative provides more than 100 partners with best-practice resources and tools to enhance maternal and newborn care, access and care coordination, and quality and patient safety. In support, our team provides evaluation, technical assistance, and data collection, analysis, and dashboards.



### **SCBOI AIM Initiative**

This SCDHHS initiative implements national standards in maternal safety protocols and continuous quality improvement to enhance birth safety and maternal outcomes in South Carolina. Our team provides technical assistance and data reporting in support of hospital and state Champions implementing maternal patient safety bundles.



### **Voices|Voces Initiative**

This initiative promotes respectful maternity care by elevating the voices of birthing individuals and clinical and community obstetric providers. With funding from the SC Center for Rural and Primary Healthcare, our team is creating a provider toolkit focused on improving clinical practice and, ultimately, maternal health outcomes through these stories.