

Apply for NACCHO's MCH PIP Learning Community (2-Year Commitment)

NACCHO, with support from HRSA's Maternal and Child Health Bureau (MCHB), will establish a **Maternal and Child Health Policy Innovation Program (MCH PIP) Learning Community**, engaging up to 10 local health departments (LHDs) that will develop interdisciplinary teams with their cross-agency and state-level partners, and community members with lived experience. This 2-year initiative (project period: March 2025–July 2027) aims to support LHDs to develop and implement policies addressing nutrition security, housing, transportation, or other relevant factors to improve maternal and child health. Selected health departments will benefit from technical assistance and capacity-building efforts guided by NACCHO and implementing partners.

Please apply by completing this form by Friday, February 28, 2025 (New deadline. The previous deadline was February 21st). Please note that this form does not commit you to, nor does it guarantee your participation. Applicants selected to join will receive an email of selection confirming their intent to participate.

For any questions or comments, please email Victoria Thompson at vtompson@naccho.org.

To preview application questions, please visit here: <https://www.naccho.org/uploads/downloadable-resources/MCH-PIP->

Program Details

Objective: By the end of the project period and with support from NACCHO, selected LHDs and their interdisciplinary teams will implement a policy to improve maternal and child health (MCH) outcomes.

In the first year of the project, each LHD will identify a policy initiative in one of the three categories:

- **Little P:** Organizational or departmental policies, often outside government, addressing practices, priorities, resource allocation, and guidelines.
- **Medium P:** Policies enacted at the coalition or partnership level.
- **Big P:** Government-enacted policies (public policy) impacting communities, created through legislative or executive actions, agency regulations, or court rulings, at local, state, or national levels.

***LHDs do not need a pre-existing policy to join this learning community, as policy development is included in the technical assistance and capacity building provided by NACCHO.**

Benefits and Expectations:

- Ongoing technical assistance provided by NACCHO to identify, develop, and advance MCH policies.
- Engage in valuable peer-to-peer knowledge exchange, fostering collaboration, and sharing of best practices.
- Demonstrate active engagement through consistent attendance, thoughtful preparation, and meaningful contributions to discussions.
- Estimated time commitment: 4-6 hours per month, including calls every other month and independent work. Each year, LHDs will travel to an annual in-person meeting. Travel expenses will be covered by NACCHO.

Eligibility:

- Open to staff from LHDs, particularly those working on MCH, public health policies, and/or coalition initiatives, with **Local Health Official (LHO) approval required**. If selected, the LHO will be required to sign a letter of intent to confirm the health department's participation. Please review the provided template (link below) and share it with your LHO for their consideration.
 - Letter of intent template: <https://naccho.org/uploads/downloadable-resources/MCH-PIP-Letter-of-Intent.pdf>
- Only one application per LHD will be accepted.
- NACCHO seeks to collaborate with LHDs representing diverse levels of experience in policy development and implementation. **Prior experience is not required** to participate in the MCH PIP project.

Applicant Information

1. Local Health Department Name *

2. State *

3. **Jurisdiction Characteristics:** Please provide a brief description of your local health department, including urbanicity, the demographic makeup of the population you serve, and the size of the jurisdiction served (less than 50,000; 50,000-499,000; or 500,000 or more people). *

4. **Interest and Motivation:** Please provide a brief bio and explain your interest in joining the MCH PIP Learning Community, including what you hope to gain from participating. *

5. **Interdisciplinary Team:** What other departments or staff at the LHD will be involved in the planning and implementation of policy initiatives and why? *

Contact Information

6. Primary Point of Contact Job Title and Department *

7. Primary Point of Contact First and Last Name *

8. Primary Point of Contact Email Address *

Please enter an email

9. Primary Point of Contact Phone Number *

The value must be a number

10. Secondary Point of Contact First and Last Name

11. Secondary Point of Contact Job Title and Department

12. Secondary Point of Contact Email Address

Please enter an email

13. Secondary Point of Contact Phone Number

The value must be a number

Focus Areas for Maternal and Child Health (MCH) Policy

14. What are the most pressing MCH concerns within your jurisdiction? *

15. Which factors can your LHD best address through policy initiatives to improve MCH in your community? Please rank. *

Housing

Food and nutrition security

Transportation

Other (i.e., access to healthcare, social support, employment, income, etc.)

16. If you selected other, please list the factor(s) below.

17. Please describe the impact of the focus areas you ranked the highest on MCH in your community. Please describe any previous policy initiatives or related efforts addressing this factor within the context of maternal and child health. *

18. Please indicate the type of policy initiative your LHD is interested in pursuing to address the identified factor as it relates to MCH (Little P, Medium P, or Big P, as defined in the Program Details section). *

19. Please rate your organization's readiness and capacity to develop and implement a policy initiative related to maternal and child health, as described above. *Prior experience in policy development and implementation is not required to participate in this project. This question is intended to gather baseline information about applicants.* *

	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
LHD possesses the ability to develop a policy initiative related to MCH	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
LHD possesses the ability to implement a policy initiative related to MCH	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

20. Please explain why you chose the ratings above. *

Stakeholder Engagement

Throughout the project period, LHDs will increase partnership opportunities with new and existing stakeholders to move initiatives forward.

21. **State-Level Partners:** Do you currently collaborate with state-level MCH partners (e.g., state health officials, State Associations of County and City Health Officials [SACCHOs], Title V Directors, state MCH coalitions)?

- Yes, please list the partners and describe your collaboration.
- No, please explain how you wish to be engaged with state-level partners and their potential role in policy initiatives.

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22. **Cross-Agency/Sectoral Partners:** Do you currently collaborate with cross-agency/sectoral partners regarding MCH?

- Yes, please list the agencies/partners and describe your collaboration.
- No, please explain how you wish to be engaged and their potential role in policy initiatives.

*

23. **People with Lived Experience:** Do you currently incorporate People with Lived Experience (PWLE) in MCH decisions?

- Yes, please describe the level of engagement and processes of doing so.
- No, please explain how you wish to incorporate PWLE and their potential role in policy initiatives.

*

Additional Questions

24. How did you hear about this opportunity? *

25. Questions/Comments?

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