



**Bridging Preparedness, Infectious Disease, Maternal-Child  
Health and Birth Defects within Cities and Counties: A  
Resource Guide for Local Health Departments  
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**Public Health**  
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**NACCHO**  
National Association of County & City Health Officials

# Local Responses to Infectious Disease and Maternal and Child Health: A Resource Guide for Local Health Departments

This resource guide is the result of a literature scan for best practices, toolkits, and guidance on infectious disease preparedness and response for maternal and child health (MCH) populations. The goal of the guide is to present tools and resources related to the intersections of preparedness, infectious disease, and MCH that local health departments (LHDs) can adapt in preparing for and responding to infectious diseases that threaten pregnant people and their infants, including COVID-19. The resources in this guide are either specific to MCH or can be adapted to meet the needs of this population. NACCHO will continue adding to this list through activities conducted in the second year of this project and, in partnership with workgroup members and other stakeholders, will identify several for adaptation and dissemination for the COVID-19 response. Resources are categorized by the following topics: Public Health Preparedness, Monitoring and Surveillance, and Partner Coordination and Collaboration.

## Public Health Preparedness

The resources in this section outline approaches to prepare for, respond to, and recover from public health emergencies and mitigate disease impact on MCH populations.

Resource	Resource Level	Resource Description	Access Link
<b>Utilizing the Incident Command System in a Pertussis Outbreak</b>	Local	This resource is a model practice to coordinate pertussis response activities at the Florida Department of Health in Broward County. The goal was to minimize the spread of pertussis in schools and day care centers and provide the media and the public with accurate and timely information. The LHD activated an Incident Management Team, utilizing the Incident Command System and adhering to National Incident Management Standards to track and document progress for each of the goals/objectives identified in the Incident Action Plan. A formalized epidemiological and communications response was initiated.	<a href="https://www.dropbox.com/s/618gevvgzu1c1ze/Utilizing%20the%20Incident%20Command%20System%20in%20a%20Pertussis%20Outbreak.pdf?dl=0">https://www.dropbox.com/s/618gevvgzu1c1ze/Utilizing%20the%20Incident%20Command%20System%20in%20a%20Pertussis%20Outbreak.pdf?dl=0</a>
<b>Child Care Emergency Preparedness Outreach</b>	Local	This model practice describes the Child Care Emergency Preparedness Outreach Program in which the Dakota	<a href="https://www.dropbox.com/s/4pihdun0b7nci3z/Child%20Care%20Emergency%20Outreach.pdf?dl=0">https://www.dropbox.com/s/4pihdun0b7nci3z/Child%20Care%20Emergency%20Outreach.pdf?dl=0</a>

		County (MN) Public Health Emergency Preparedness and Dakota County Social Service Child Care Licensing staff coordinated to develop two trainings: 1. child care preparedness, which is a comprehensive overview of emergency preparedness for child care providers and 2. emergency preparedness planning for child care providers, which gives specific guidance for completing a child care emergency preparedness plan.	<a href="#">20Preparedness%20Outreach%20.pdf?dl=0</a>
<b>Disaster Safety for Expecting and New Parents</b>	National	This CDC website includes comprehensive information about preparing for and responding to the needs of reproductive-aged people and infants before, during, and after public health emergencies, including emerging and pandemic diseases. Tools and resources include a pregnancy estimator, post-disaster indicators for pregnant and postpartum women and infants, and an online reproductive health in emergency preparedness and response course.	<a href="https://www.cdc.gov/reproductivehealth/emergency/index.html">https://www.cdc.gov/reproductivehealth/emergency/index.html</a>
<b>Vector-borne Disease Response Planning</b>	Local	This model practice resource describes how the Oklahoma City-County Health Department (OK) has bolstered its response planning over the past 7 years. Oklahoma City-County deploys a phased vector borne response plan to address multiple diseases, including Zika Virus and West Nile Virus. This plan is scalable and flexible and prepares for the “worst case” scenario.	<a href="https://www.dropbox.com/s/wak4mokidd30vyq/Vector-borne%20Disease%20Response%20Planning.pdf?dl=0">https://www.dropbox.com/s/wak4mokidd30vyq/Vector-borne%20Disease%20Response%20Planning.pdf?dl=0</a>
<b>Protect Yourself and your Family from COVID-19</b>	National	This CDC webpage provides information for pregnant people on to protecting themselves during COVID-19.	<a href="https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/need-extra-precautions/pregnancy-breastfeeding.html">https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/need-extra-precautions/pregnancy-breastfeeding.html</a>
<b>Addressing Health Equity During a Pandemic</b>	National	This webpage by the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG) offers examples of how health care institutions, obstetrician-gynecologists, and other health care practitioners can work to address preventable morbidity and mortality, with a focus on eliminating racial inequities in maternal health access, quality of care, and health outcomes during and after the COVID-19 pandemic.	<a href="https://www.acog.org/clinical-information/policy-and-position-statements/position-statements/2020/addressing-health-equity-during-the-covid-19-pandemic">https://www.acog.org/clinical-information/policy-and-position-statements/position-statements/2020/addressing-health-equity-during-the-covid-19-pandemic</a>

## Monitoring and Surveillance

The tools in this section are specific to monitoring trends of infectious diseases, progress towards disease control, and the provision of information which may be used to evaluate the impact of infectious disease on MCH populations.

Resource	Resource Level	Resource Description	Access Link
<b>Maternal &amp; Infant Health Scorecard</b>	State	This resource is a scorecard by the Vermont Department of Health that reflects its progress in efforts to promote healthy pregnancies, breastfeeding and the health of parents and babies in general and during an outbreak.	<a href="https://www.healthvermont.gov/scorecard-maternal-infant-health">https://www.healthvermont.gov/scorecard-maternal-infant-health</a>
<b>An Integrated Vector Management Approach Towards Emerging Infectious Diseases Prevention in Harris County and the City of Houston, Texas</b>	Local	This model practice resource describes the goals of Harris County Public Health (TX) initiative to develop and implement an effective and efficient vector and pathogen surveillance program to protect Harris County/Houston residents from vector-borne diseases. To do so they: 1. Utilized county and collaborative resources to support program components. 2. Maintained and adapted program processes as new methodologies and technologies become available. 3. Enhanced and streamlined the notification system for vector-borne disease presence.	<a href="https://www.dropbox.com/s/9lo9sfkir4i9fb0/An%20Integrated%20Vector%20Management%20Approach%20Towards%20Emerging%20Infectious%20Diseases%20Prevention%20in%20Harris%20County%20and%20the%20City%20of%20Houston%2C%20Texas.pdf?dl=0">https://www.dropbox.com/s/9lo9sfkir4i9fb0/An%20Integrated%20Vector%20Management%20Approach%20Towards%20Emerging%20Infectious%20Diseases%20Prevention%20in%20Harris%20County%20and%20the%20City%20of%20Houston%2C%20Texas.pdf?dl=0</a>
<b>Video Tutorials for School Immunization Reporting</b>	Local	This model practice resource describes how Multnomah County Health Department (OR) aims to 1. demonstrate immunization partnership with local schools and childcare facilities, 2. provide school and facility partners with training options for the school immunization process, 3. empower reporters with job aids and resources to produce/submit accurate reports and 4. encourage good record keeping for outbreak preparedness.	<a href="https://www.dropbox.com/s/fcf8u3Or9apbxri/Video%20Tutorials%20for%20School%20Immunization%20Reporting.pdf?dl=0">https://www.dropbox.com/s/fcf8u3Or9apbxri/Video%20Tutorials%20for%20School%20Immunization%20Reporting.pdf?dl=0</a>
<b>Adoption, Implementation, and Enhancement of Flu Portal, a School Based Online ILI Surveillance Tool in Harris County, Texas</b>	Local	This model practice resource from Harris County Public Health (TX) is an innovative approach that utilizes voluntary reports from nurses affiliated with local independent school districts in the form of daily absenteeism and absenteeism due to influenza-like illness (ILI). This data, combined with a sample of rapid flu test results from acute-care hospitals, provide a way	<a href="https://www.dropbox.com/s/wu0ag6meixwe2nu/Adoption%2C%20Implementation%2C%20and%20Enhancement%20of%20Flu%20Portal%2C%20a%20School%20Based%20Online%20ILI%20Surveillance%20Tool%20i">https://www.dropbox.com/s/wu0ag6meixwe2nu/Adoption%2C%20Implementation%2C%20and%20Enhancement%20of%20Flu%20Portal%2C%20a%20School%20Based%20Online%20ILI%20Surveillance%20Tool%20i</a>

		for epidemiologists at HCPH to examine trends in ILI activity during the school year, which has proved valuable during particularly severe seasons, such as the 2017-2018 season, considered by the CDC as one of the deadliest in decades.	<a href="#">n%20Harris%20County%2C%20Texas.pdf?dl=0</a>
<b>Guidance for Screening and Caring for Pregnant Women with Ebola Virus Disease for Healthcare Providers in U.S. Hospitals</b>	National	This CDC website provides guidance on how to screen pregnant people for Ebola virus disease (EVD) and how to care for pregnant people as patients under investigation (PUIs) for or with confirmed EVD, including considerations for pregnant healthcare workers. This guidance is intended to help health providers and agencies plan for screening and treating pregnant PUIs or patients with confirmed EVD.	<a href="https://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/clinicians/evd/pregnant-women.html">https://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/clinicians/evd/pregnant-women.html</a>
<b>Surveillance for Emerging Threats to Mothers and Babies</b>	National	This CDC webpage provides guidance on detecting the effects of new health threats on parents and babies by tracking them from pregnancy through childhood and responding with real-time evidence-based, actionable information that helps save and improve lives	<a href="https://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/about/pregnancy/emerging-threats.html#:~:text=Through%20this%20effort%2C%20state%2C%20local,pregnant%20women%20and%20their%20infants.">https://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/about/pregnancy/emerging-threats.html#:~:text=Through%20this%20effort%2C%20state%2C%20local,pregnant%20women%20and%20their%20infants.</a>

## Partner Coordination and Collaboration

The tools in this section are specific to the organization and communication of efforts between two or more public health stakeholders involved in the appropriate delivery of quality health care and social services to MCH population during an infectious disease outbreak.

Resource	Resource Level	Resource Description	Access Link
<b>Texas Plan for System of Services for Children with Congenital Zika Syndrome</b>	State	This document provides information on the Texas Plan for System of Services, which is a cross-program workgroup focused on planning how systems of care would serve and identify children with congenital Zika syndrome. Through this initiative, Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) developed collaborative partnerships between the Children with Special Health Care Needs, Systems Development Group, Texas Parent to Parent, Regional and Local Health Services, Texas	<a href="http://www.amchp.org/programsandtopics/CYSHCN/Documents/TX-System-of-Svcs-for-CSHCN-Zika01.13.2017_FINAL.pdf">http://www.amchp.org/programsandtopics/CYSHCN/Documents/TX-System-of-Svcs-for-CSHCN-Zika01.13.2017_FINAL.pdf</a>

		Birth Defects Epidemiology and Surveillance Branch, and Texas DSHS Specialized Health and Social Services.	
<b>Enhanced-Early Intervention Service Coordination: A Health Equity Initiative for Early Intervention</b>	Local	This model practice describes a Nassau County (NY) program that leveraged the resources of their two major Maternal Child Health programs; the Early Intervention Program and WIC to provide parent education and individualized developmental screenings at a busy WIC site for children under age three years. When indicated, children were directly referred into Early Intervention for tracking, multi-disciplinary evaluations and services. Streamlining the referral eliminates some of the barriers that exist in providing early intervention services to children in an at-risk community.	<a href="https://www.dropbox.com/s/9dj7clj8pwggu5l/Enhanced-Early%20Intervention%20Service%20Coordination%20A%20Health%20Equity%20Initiative%20for%20Early%20Intervention.pdf?dl=0">https://www.dropbox.com/s/9dj7clj8pwggu5l/Enhanced-Early%20Intervention%20Service%20Coordination%20A%20Health%20Equity%20Initiative%20for%20Early%20Intervention.pdf?dl=0</a>
<b>Community Partnerships</b>	Local	This model practice resource comes from the Florida Department of Health - Hillsborough County initiative. They joined forces with the Healthy Start Coalition of Hillsborough County to help better serve their WIC participants by implementing a Women's Infant Resource Specialist 7 of our 8 WIC offices. This partnership served identified pregnant women receiving WIC services and their infant after birthing up to one year of age.	<a href="https://www.dropbox.com/s/u4kposygoxddqsn/Community%20Partnerships.pdf?dl=0">https://www.dropbox.com/s/u4kposygoxddqsn/Community%20Partnerships.pdf?dl=0</a>
<b>Zika Local Health Department Initiative</b>	Local/National	This CDC webpage describes the Zika Local Health Department (LHD) Initiative. The LHD Initiative placed field assignees in local health departments responding to Zika virus in order to build the capacity to strengthen collaboration between public health and healthcare providers to; 1) provide a skilled person to help LHDs meet the needs of their communities, 2) to mobilize the maternal and child health (MCH) community to collaborate with CDC, partner organizations, field assignees, and local and state health departments, 3) engage partner organizations to support sharing knowledge, skills, and expertise, and 4) use CDC resources to support field assignees in addressing the needs of mothers and infants.	<a href="https://www.cdc.gov/pregnancy/zika/research/lhdi.html">https://www.cdc.gov/pregnancy/zika/research/lhdi.html</a>

<b>Collaborative and Coordinated Effort in a Rapid Response to Zika</b>	Local	This model practice details goals and objectives of a proposed practice to prevent an outbreak of the Zika virus in Broward County (FL) through rapid response and continued collaboration between the Florida Department of Health - Broward County Epidemiology Department, Environmental Health Department, and Broward County Mosquito Control Section. This effort included the improvement of mosquito notification and surveillance efforts of suspected mosquito borne illness through partnerships between the LHD and local hospital emergency departments, urgent care centers, primary care centers, and the public	<a href="https://www.dropbox.com/s/hm9pfqfrtb7rpu6/Collaborative%20and%20Coordinated%20Effort%20in%20a%20Rapid%20Response%20to%20Zika.pdf?dl=0">https://www.dropbox.com/s/hm9pfqfrtb7rpu6/Collaborative%20and%20Coordinated%20Effort%20in%20a%20Rapid%20Response%20to%20Zika.pdf?dl=0</a>
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