

CDPHE and the Colorado Lab Are Partnering to Advance Evidence-based Decision-making for Perinatal Health Equity

The purpose of this document is to provide a high-level overview of two primary SB21-194 studies and promote alignment as CDPHE and the Colorado Lab engage stakeholders.

Background

In 2021, [Senate Bill 21-194](#) was passed as part of the Birth Equity Bill Package (SB21-193, SB21-194, SB21-101) to protect human rights, improve well-being outcomes, and decrease health disparities during the perinatal period. SB21-194 (Maternal Health Providers) has two important provisions positioned to advance evidence-based decision-making in Colorado: 1) Section 25-52-104, 3D: make recommendations to improve the collection and public reporting of maternal health data from a wide range of providers, facilities, sectors, and systems; and 2) Section 25-52-104, 3E: study the use of research evidence in policies related to the perinatal period in Colorado.

Stakeholder Engagement

Both studies have a robust stakeholder engagement process for co-designing study priorities and executing different activities necessary to meet these legislative provisions. Stakeholders include childbearing persons, families, advocacy organizations, cross-system leadership, and perinatal health providers and provider organizations. Many of the same stakeholders will be engaged in both projects to facilitate alignment between studies, balanced with an in-depth exploration of each area. To honor the meaningful designs of each project and assure stakeholder confidentiality, the two projects will not exchange specific information during the study periods, but rather, will crosswalk aggregate findings to identify points of articulation and action. As such, stakeholders who participate in both studies may be asked to provide similar information or be asked similar questions to inform different parts of the whole picture. It is important that you share information that you feel is relevant to this work with both groups.

Overview of Each Study

	Aims	Timeline	Contact	Stakeholder Engagement
3D. Studying the Collection and Reporting of Maternal Health Data	Make recommendations to improve the collection and public reporting of maternal health data from various entities with a particular focus on data around race/ethnicity, disability, uptake of bias training, incidents of disrespect or mistreatment, and data collected through stories.	Study Design: July 2022 to September 2022 Study Execution: October 2022 to March 2022	CDPHE Laurel Kordyban, laurel.kordyban@state.co.us	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participate in surveys, focus groups, or interviews on maternal data access and gaps • Recommend other points of contact to participate in this effort
3E. Use of Research Evidence (URE) in Perinatal Policymaking	(a) Explicate the barriers, facilitators, and processes that drive—or limit—URE during perinatal policy decision-making; and (b) Co-create data-informed guidance for how Colorado can advance evidence-based decision-making that drives towards perinatal health and reduces disparities.	Study Design: March 2022 to August 2022 Study Execution: September 2022 to June 2023.	Colorado Lab Dr. Courtney Everson, Courtney@coloradolab.org	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inform study priorities through interviews • Provide subject matter consult • Complete URE assessment (survey) • Participate in cross-system stakeholder convening