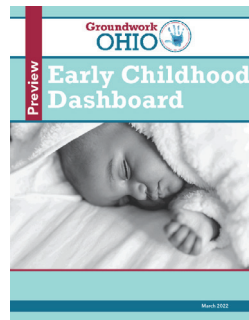


HPIO tapped to create Early Childhood Dashboard

Groundwork Ohio, a research, policy and advocacy organization, contracted with HPIO to develop the **Early Childhood Dashboard Preview**, which was released in March.



The Dashboard Preview provides a snapshot of Ohio's performance on 20 key early-childhood metrics, putting data in context through an analysis of trend, Ohio-to-U.S. comparison and disaggregation of data to identify disparities and inequities.

The more comprehensive inaugural 2023 Early Childhood Dashboard is expected to be released early next year and will also be developed in partnership HPIO.

HPIO marks Minority Health Month with series of data graphics

The federal Department of Health and Human Services Office of Minority Health designated April as National Minority Health Month, and HPIO is releasing weekly data visualizations to explore health disparities in Ohio.

Topics covered in the data graphics include:

- The racial gap in COVID-19 vaccination rates
- Disparities in maternal mortality and morbidity
- Trends in suicide rates among young Ohioans
- Differences in insurance rates

All graphics are available at HPIO's [Ohio Health Policy News](#) page.

HPIO adds to evaluation of housing program for pregnant women

The Coalition on Homelessness and Housing in Ohio (COHHIO) has contracted with HPIO to evaluate the effectiveness of a housing stabilization project designed to improve maternal and infant health outcomes for low-income families.



Healthy Beginnings at Home (HBAH) was launched as a pilot in 2017 with funding from the Ohio Housing Finance Agency. The program was implemented by CelebrateOne, a Columbus-based infant mortality prevention collaborative, and provided 49 pregnant women with rental assistance and other services.

HPIO played a key role in the **evaluation of the pilot**.

COHHIO was recently awarded a \$2.25m state contract to expand the program in Columbus and Akron. Program leaders hope to be able to also expand to Dayton and Cincinnati when additional funders are secured. HPIO's evaluation of the expansion will include examining data, disaggregated by race, that sheds light on:

- Low birth weight and preterm births, key drivers of infant mortality
- Housing stability for the families while they are in the program and as they exit, including the portion of their income spent on housing
- The health of all family members over time through Medicaid claims data analysis

HPIO brought attention to the need to address housing as a strategy to reduce infant mortality disparities in a **2017 report** that was created under contract with the Legislative Service Commission.

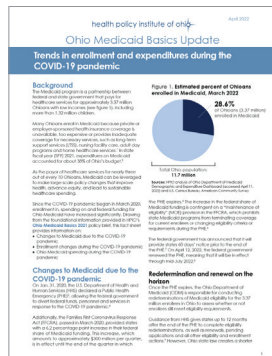
More recently, HPIO included safe and affordable housing as one of the 35 recommendations in the **COVID-19 Ohio Minority Health Strike Force Blueprint**. HPIO was contracted by the Ohio Department of Health to draft the Blueprint.

New HPIO fact sheet explores pandemic challenges for Medicaid

HPIO has released a new fact sheet, "**Ohio Medicaid Basics Update: Trends in Enrollment and Expenditures During the COVID-19 Pandemic.**"

Since the COVID-19 pandemic began in March 2020, enrollment, spending and federal funding for Ohio Medicaid have increased significantly. Drawing from the foundational information provided in HPIO's **Ohio Medicaid Basics 2021** policy brief, this fact sheet provides updates on:

- Changes to the Medicaid program due to the pandemic
- Enrollment changes during the pandemic
- Ohio Medicaid spending during the pandemic



The fact sheet concludes that "Ohio policymakers must be agile in their response to new challenges facing Medicaid enrollees as the COVID-19 pandemic continues, including the end of the (Public Health Emergency) and potential loss of Medicaid eligibility for tens of thousands of Ohioans."

HPIO is hosting a webinar May 3 (see below) on the changing landscape of Medicaid in Ohio.

Thank you to our funders

- bi3
- CareSource Foundation
- The Cleveland Foundation
- The George Gund Foundation
- The Harmony Project
- HealthPath Foundation of Ohio
- Interact for Health
- Mercy Health
- Mt. Sinai Health Foundation
- Nord Family Foundation
- North Canton Medical Foundation
- Ohio State Bar Foundation
- Sisters of Charity Foundation of Canton
- Sisters of Charity Foundation of Cleveland

A list of HPIO project funders is available at:
www.hpio.net/our-funders

FREE HPIO online forum

What's on the horizon for Ohio's Medicaid program?

Innovation, equity and unwinding the Public Health Emergency

When: Tuesday, May 3 • 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
Where: Online via Zoom

Medicaid can be leveraged to make large-scale policy changes that impact the health of enrollees. This summer, the Ohio Department of Medicaid will launch the "Next Generation of Ohio Medicaid Managed Care," which includes implementation of several strategic initiatives. At the same time, the Ohio Department of Medicaid will soon have to conduct redetermination of eligibility for Medicaid enrollees because of the impending end of the federal Public Health Emergency.

This forum will explore upcoming changes to the Ohio Medicaid program and implications of the end of the Public Health Emergency on Ohio Medicaid. Speakers will also explore innovations and promising practices in other states' Medicaid programs and how the program can improve health, achieve equity for enrollees and lead to more sustainable healthcare spending in Ohio.

Visit the HPIO website to register:
<https://bit.ly/3K4fay8>

Speakers include:

- **Maureen Corcoran**, Director, Ohio Department of Medicaid
- **Rachel Cahill**, Visiting Fellow, The Center for Community Solutions
- **Jim Ashmore**, Policy Director, Ohio Job and Family Services Directors' Association
- **Hemi Tewarson**, Executive Director, National Academy for State Health Policy

Panelists include:

- **Angela Abenaim**, Anthem Blue Cross & Blue Shield Health Equity Director, Ohio Medicaid
- **Corazon Eaton**, Director of Health Equity, Buckeye Community Health Plan
- **Christina Kalnicki**, Director Population Health, OhioRISE, Aetna
- **Ericka King-Betts**, Director of Health Equity, Humana Health Plan of Ohio
- **Patricia Lyons**, Market Health Equity Program Director, AmeriHealth Caritas of Ohio
- **Shelly Milvet**, Director of Population Health, UnitedHealthcare Community Plan of Ohio
- **Nathan Reiter**, Director of Health Equity & Cultural Competency, Molina Healthcare of Ohio
- **Kate Tullio**, Director of Health Equity, CareSource Ohio