



How Title V supports:

Cross-cutting Needs and Systems Building

In Pennsylvania, Title V work within the cross-cutting and systems building domain is focused on the foundation of the maternal and child health pyramid: the development of public health services and systems. The work of this domain is the basis of all the Title V health programming and strategies. Title V's commitment to workforce development and addressing health disparities is actualized through the strategies of this domain, which include building workforce capacity, especially as it relates to using data to make decisions, implementing and maintaining continuous quality improvement processes, and strengthening systems and infrastructure to enhance service delivery and address key social determinants of health. Beginning in 2021, cross-cutting and systems building strategies worked to advance Priority 6 and Priority 7 of the Title V Action Plan.

PRIORITY 7

Support and effect change at the organizational level and system level by supporting and promoting policies, programs and actions that advance health equity, address the social, environmental and economic determinants of health and deconstruct institutionalized systems of oppression

PRIORITY 6

Strengthen Title V staff's capacity for data-driven and evidence-based decision making and program development

Addressing priority health needs with evidence-based strategies



Advancing Health Equity

The Pennsylvania Title V Program's administrator, the Bureau of Family Health, aims to educate staff on health equity principles and guide staff and grantees as they seek to identify and address health disparities. Workforce training on developing and evaluating health equity plans is ongoing. New initiatives that aim to educate staff on meaningful community engagement and understanding and applying the principles of health equity are underway.



Leveraging the Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System (PRAMS)

PRAMS is a joint research project between the Centers for Disease Control and state health departments which collects state-specific, population-based data on attitudes and experiences before, during, and after pregnancy through a survey. PRAMS has been a data source in Pennsylvania since 2007. To increase the visibility of the PRAMS dataset and the insights it can provide to maternal and child health stakeholders, Pennsylvania's Title V Program will annually disseminate at least two PRAMS data analysis products.



Data Access and Use

State and national data sources are important in assessing the health status of maternal and child health populations in the state and also informing Title V strategy implementation. Title V staff receive technical assistance on how to identify and access datasets that can be used to support and develop new programming.

One such dataset, the National Survey of Children's Health, is a national survey that provides state-level data on intersecting aspects of children's health and well-being. Pennsylvania's Title V Program is conducting an oversample, which will result in an increased number of completed surveys. Once implemented, the oversample will enable reporting on smaller populations, such as children with special health care needs, or rare outcomes with greater precision.



Building the Capacity of Child Death Review Teams

Pennsylvania's Title V Program provides training and support to all of the state's Child Death Review (CDR) teams. CDR teams summarize the findings from the reviews of child deaths and make recommendations on how to utilize those findings to inform prevention strategies and programming. The percentage of child deaths reviewed in Pennsylvania has been declining since 2003. In order to increase the number of reviews conducted, build team expertise, and enhance the quality of the review data entered into the National Case Reporting System, Title V staff will support additional, targeted technical assistance to underperforming teams.



Quality Improvement, Data Collection, and Reporting

Title V staff are developing standard operating procedures in order to streamline data collection and reporting from service recipients and grantees. Increased standardization will allow the workforce to ensure quality and consistency in data collection and identify areas for improvement.



Development of Objectives and Measures

Title V staff receive ongoing technical assistance and training on how to develop objectives that are specific, measurable, attainable, realistic, and time-bound. Existing measures and programmatic data sources are also continuously evaluated and tracked in order to monitor performance and progress.

The Department of Health's Bureau of Family Health is the Title V Administrator in Pennsylvania.

For more information, e-mail RA-DHPATITLEV@pa.gov or visit our website:

<https://www.health.pa.gov/topics/Administrative/Pages/Title-V.aspx>