

Joe Lombardo
Governor

Richard Whitley,
MS
Director



Dena Schmidt
Administrator

Ihsan Azzam,
Ph.D., M.D.
Chief Medical
Officer

MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD

CANCELED

**November 7, 2025
9:00 AM to 12:00 PM**

This meeting is a virtual meeting and there is no physical location. The public is invited to attend.

VIRTUAL INFORMATION

How to Participate

Join on your computer, mobile app or room device

[Microsoft TEAMS](#)

Meeting ID: 283 719 515 311 7

Passcode: Q82L4fn7

Dial in by phone

+1 775-321-6111, 244234563# United States, Reno

[Find a local number](#)

Phone conference ID: 244 234 563#

NOTICE:

1. Agenda items may be taken out of order;
2. Two or more items may be combined; and
3. Items may be removed from agenda or delayed at any time

1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

2. **PUBLIC COMMENT:** No action may be taken on a matter raised under this item unless the matter is included on an agenda as an item upon which action may be taken. To provide public comment using the Microsoft Teams application, an individual may raise their hand by clicking the "Raise Your Hand" button (signified by a hand graphic) on the bottom tool bar of the application. To provide public comments telephonically, dial 775-321-6111. When prompted to provide the meeting ID, enter 244 234 563#. Due to time considerations, comments will be limited to five (5) minutes a person. Members of the public utilizing the call-in (audio only) number may raise their hand by pressing *5. Persons making comments will be asked to begin by stating their name for the record and to spell their last name.
3. **FOR POSSIBLE ACTION:** Discussion and possible action to approve meeting minutes from the February 7, 2025, Maternal and Child Health Advisory Board (MCHAB) meeting – Keith Brill, MD, Chair
4. **FOR INFORMATION ONLY:** Presentation of the Perinatal Health Initiative (PHI) and the EMPOWERED Program – Abigail Hatefi, BSPH, Substance Use Prevention, Treatment and

Recovery Program Coordinator and Vanessa Helfrick Paulus, Project Manager, Social Entrepreneurs Inc. (SEI)

5. **FOR INFORMATION ONLY:** Presentation of Critical Congenital Heart Disease (CCHD) Reports and Updates – Karissa Machado, MPH, Maternal, Child and Adolescent Health Section Manager and Cassius Adams, MS, Children with Special Health Care Needs Program Coordinator
6. **FOR INFORMATION ONLY:** Updates on Maternal and Child Health (MCH) Programs and Alliance for Innovation on Maternal Health (AIM)/Maternal Mortality Review Committee (MMRC) Updates – Tami Conn, MPH, Deputy Bureau Chief, Bureau of Child, Family and Community Wellness and Karissa Machado, MPH, Maternal, Child and Adolescent Health Section Manager
7. **FOR INFORMATION ONLY:** Coordinated Intake Referral System (CIRS) Executive Summary, Tiffany Olivas, Early Childhood Comprehensive Systems (ECCS) Manager, The Children's Cabinet and Denise Tanata, ECCS Advisor, The Children's Cabinet
8. **FOR INFORMATION ONLY:** Presentations on the University of Nevada, Reno (UNR) Extension and University of Nevada, Las Vegas (UNLV) Early Responsive Nurturing Care for Food Security Programs – Erika Nematian, MPH, UNR, and Dr. Gabriela Buccini, PhD, MSc, IBCLC, UNLV
9. **FOR POSSIBLE ACTION:** Discussion and possible action on recommendations for future agenda items – Keith Brill, MD, Chair
10. **FOR POSSIBLE ACTION:** Discussion and possible action for approved future meeting dates: February 6, 2026, at 9:00 a.m., May 1, 2026, at 9:00 a.m., August 7, 2026, at 9:00 a.m., and November 6, 2026, at 9:00 a.m.
11. **PUBLIC COMMENT:** No action may be taken on a matter raised under this item unless the matter is included on an agenda as an item upon which action may be taken. To provide public comment using the Microsoft Teams application, an individual may raise their hand by clicking the "Raise Your Hand" button (signified by a hand graphic) on the bottom tool bar of the application. To provide public comment telephonically, dial 775-321-6111. When prompted to provide the meeting ID, enter 244 234 563#. Due to time considerations, comments will be limited to five (5) minutes a person. Members of the public utilizing the call-in (audio only) number may raise their hand by pressing *5. Persons making comments will be asked to begin by stating their name for the record and to spell their last name.

12. ADJOURNMENT

NOTICES OF THIS MEETING WERE POSTED AT THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS:

- The Nevada Division of Public and Behavioral Health website at https://dpbh.nv.gov/Boards/MCAB/Meetings/2025/Maternal_and_Child_Health_Advisory_Board/
- The Department of Administration's website at <https://notice.nv.gov>.

PHYSICAL POSTING LOCATIONS

- The Nevada Division of Public and Behavioral Health – 4150 Technology Way, Carson City, NV 89706

This body will provide at least two (2) public comment periods in compliance with the minimum requirements of the Open Meeting Law prior to adjournment. Additionally, it is the goal of the MCHAB to also afford the public with an item-specific public comment period. No action may be taken on a matter raised under public comment unless the item has been specifically included on the agenda as an item upon which action may be taken. The Chair retains discretion to only provide for the Open Meeting Law's minimum public comment and not call for additional item-specific public comment when it is deemed

necessary by the Chair to the orderly conduct of the meeting. Written comments in excess of one (1) typed page on any agenda items which require a vote are respectfully requested to be submitted to the MCHAB at the below address 30 calendar days prior to the meeting to ensure that adequate consideration is given to the material.

This meeting is a public meeting, recorded and held in compliance with and pursuant to the Nevada Open Meeting Law, pursuant to NRS 241. By Participating, you consent to recording of your participation in this meeting. All voting members should leave their cameras on for the duration of the meeting and refrain from entering any information into the chat function of the video platform.

We are pleased to provide reasonable accommodation for members of the public who are living with a disability and wish to attend the meeting. If special arrangements are necessary, please notify Barbara Bessol in writing by email (bbessol@health.nv.gov), by mail (Maternal and Child Health Advisory Board, Nevada Division of Public and Behavioral Health, 4150 Technology Way, Suite 210, Carson City, NV 89706) or by calling (775) 684-4235 before the meeting date. Anyone who would like to be on the MCHAB mailing list must submit a written request every six months to the Nevada Division of Public and Behavioral Health at the address listed above. To join the MCHAB listserv, please follow the directions below to subscribe/unsubscribe to all emails.

[Click here to send an email for the MCHAB listserv.](#)

- Include only "subscribe MCHAB" in the body of the email; or
- Include only "unsubscribe MCHAB" in the body of the email.
- Do not include any text in the subject line.

If you need supporting documents for this meeting, please notify Barbara Bessol, Division of Public and Behavioral Health, Bureau of Child, Family and Community Wellness, at (775) 684-4235 or by email at bbessol@health.nv.gov. Supporting materials are available for the public on the Nevada Division of Public and Behavioral Health Website at https://dpbh.nv.gov/Boards/MCAB/Maternal_and_Child_Health_Advisory_Board_home/ and on the Department of Administration's website at <https://notice.nv.gov/>.

If at any time during the meeting, an individual who has been named on the agenda or has an item specifically regarding them, including on the agenda is unable to participate because of technical difficulties, please contact Barbara Bessol, Division of Public and Behavioral Health, Bureau of Child, Family and Community Wellness, at (775) 684-4235 or by email at bbessol@health.nv.gov and note at what time the difficulty started to that matters pertaining specifically to their participation may be continued to a future agenda if needed or otherwise addressed.

Please be cautious and do not click on links in the chat area of the meeting unless you have verified that they are safe. If you ever have questions about a link in a document purporting to be from the Maternal and Child Health Advisory Board, please do not hesitate to contact Barbara Bessol, Division of Public and Behavioral Health, Bureau of Child, Family and Community Wellness, at (775) 684-4235 or by email at bbessol@health.nv.gov. Please refrain from commenting in the chat area of the meeting, unless requested to, because minutes are required to be taken of the meeting.

Use of obscenities or other behavior which disrupts the meeting to the extent that orderly conduct is made impractical may result in the forfeiture of the opportunity to provide public comment or removal from the meeting.

MCHAB, DPBH, Attn: Barbara
Bessol 4150 Technology Way,
Suite 210 Carson City, Nevada,
89706