



**DELAWARE HEALTHY INFANT AND MOTHER CONSORTIUM (DHMIC)
MEETING MINUTES
TOWN HALL**

Thursday, May 15, 2025
In-Person, 10:42am-12:09pm
Drafted Meeting Minutes

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Dr. Priscilla Mpasi, Chair
Tiffany Chalk, Vice-Chair
Dr. Lindsay Ashkenase
Dr. Garrett Colmorgen
Ray Fitzgerald
Dr. Alethea Miller
Dr. Julius Mullen
Representative Kamela Smith

DIVISION OF PUBLIC HEALTH PRESENT:

Leah Jones
Dr. Naa Dede Hesse
Michelle Mathew
LaKeesha Johns
Gary Webb
Leora Sansone
Yvonne Fletcher
Brit Seidt

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Bridget Buckaloo
Logan Herring
Dr. Marshala Lee-McCall
Dr. Olubusola Ogunlade
Dr. Agnes Richardson
Representative Valerie Jones Giltner
Senator Marie Pinkney
Senator Bryant Richardson

Number of public members in attendance: 30. Full sign-in list stored with DPH meeting records.

TOPIC	FINDINGS, CONCLUSIONS & RECOMMENDATIONS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	STATUS	ACTIONS & FOLLOW-UP
I. Call to Order	The meeting was called to order by Dr. Priscilla Mpasi, Chair, at 10:42am.	Dr. Priscilla Mpasi, Chair	Resolved	No further action required.
II. Member Introductions	DHMIC members introduced themselves and their organization affiliation. Legislative Introduction: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Representative Kamela Smith (she/her) introduced herself as a freshman legislator representing the 14th District, appointed by Speaker Melissa Minor-Brown. Dr. Mpasi noted that due to the General Assembly committee meetings schedule, legislators Representative Valerie Jones	Dr. Priscilla Mpasi, Chair	Resolved	No further action required.

	Pierce, Senator Marie Pinkney, and Senator Brian Richardson were not able to attend the meeting today.			
III. Approval of Minutes	The minutes of the January 29, 2025, Q1 DHMIC Meeting were unanimously approved.	Dr. Priscilla Mpasi, Chair	Resolved	No further action required.
IV. Committee Updates	<p>Well Women and Black Maternal Health Committee</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Committee met April 30 and focused on Her Story 2.0, a continuation of the video series amplifying women's voices. A follow-up meeting was held to expand the project to include postpartum and substance use disorder awareness. The committee is also revising the Women's Life Plan, Teen Life Plan, and Man Up Plan. Feedback is invited from community partners using these tools. Positive feedback was received on the fatherhood panel at the recent DHMIC Summit. <p>Social Determinants of Health Committee</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Committee met March 26 and introduced Dr. Mullen as new co-chair. DHMIC Board approved a recommendation to prioritize pregnant women in housing programs. Workgroup met May 9 and heard presentations from: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> CSG (consultants on centralized Section 8 lists) Delaware State Housing Authority (DSHA) on SRAP Division of Substance Abuse and Mental Health (DSAMH) on voucher use in their programs Community Legal Aid Society on legal considerations Due to challenges with the Section 8 list, focus shifted to expanding access via SRAP vouchers. <p>Data Committee</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Committee reconvened with meetings on April 2 and May 7. Focused on understanding existing maternal and infant health data sources and identifying gaps. Developed new mission and vision to leverage and communicate timely, relevant data for improving outcomes. Goals include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supporting evidence-based practices Improving data infrastructure and use Promoting cross-sector collaboration Website updates and committee recruitment in progress. <p>Discussion Highlights:</p>	<p>Tiffany Chalk and Mona Liza Hamlin, Co-Chairs</p> <p>Ray Fitzgerald and Dr. J. Mullen, Co-Chairs</p> <p>Dr. Lindsay Ashkenase and Dr. Alethea Miller, Co-Chairs</p>	Resolved	No further action required.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Concerns raised about the CDC's suspension of PRAMS and potential loss of equity-related data. Leah Jones (DPH) confirmed PRAMS is currently unstable at the federal level; the state is exploring in-house continuation using internal funding. Additional data sources under consideration: Medicaid and Healthy Women Healthy Babies program data. Emily Katzman (ChristianaCare) encouraged collaboration and review of ACOG's fourth trimester benchmarks for potential integration. 			
V. Organization Presentation	<p>The MotherSHIP App</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Presented a federally funded app designed to support pregnant and parenting women with behavioral health challenges. Developed by a team with lived experience and tested in Philadelphia. Key features: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Weekly pregnancy and postpartum lessons Content on self-care, behavioral health, child development, and parenting Available in English and Spanish with accessibility considerations Recruitment in Philadelphia has been difficult due to social determinants like housing insecurity and phone access. Dr. Kaplan is exploring use of the app in Delaware with residential treatment centers. Expressed interest in future partnerships with Delaware-based healthcare and behavioral health providers. 	Dr. Katy Kaplan, University of Delaware	Resolved	No further action required.
VI. DHMIC 2025 Summit Recap	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 419 registered; 380 attended in person. Featured 24 speakers, breakout sessions, and Innovation Stations. Keynote speakers included Dr. Nadine Burke Harris and Dr. Janet Currie. High satisfaction ratings across the board: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 88% overall satisfaction 91% gained relevant skills 76% felt there was enough time for networking Strong feedback on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Men's maternal health perspectives panel Interactive sessions <p>Suggestions included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Making slides or recordings available online Allowing repeat breakout sessions so attendees have the opportunity to listen to all sessions Offering CEUs Placing vendors back in the main room Improving signage for giveaway vs. display materials at Innovation Stations 	Dr. Priscilla Mpasi, Chair	Resolved	No further action required.

VII. Community Collaboration Discussion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion held on how to maintain engagement and momentum between quarterly meetings. • Feedback included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Creating a DHMIC newsletter (biannual suggested) ○ Repurposing summit content through short video clips or visual notes ○ Using committee capacity to incorporate emerging topics from the summit ○ Encouraging continued community input and cross-committee collaboration 	Dr. Priscilla Mpasi, Chair	Resolved	No further action required.
VIII. Announcements	<p>May 18: Community Healthcare Equity event at Crossroads Church, hosted by the Office of Women's Health</p> <p>August 2: ChristianaCare Big Latch On and Family Fair (seeking vendors and participants)</p>	Public Attendees	Resolved	No further action required.
IX. Adjournment	Meeting adjourned at 12:08pm.	Dr. Mpasi, Chair	Resolved	No further action required.

Minutes prepared by: Brit Seidt

Minutes reviewed by: Leah Woodall

Minutes reviewed by: Priscilla, M.D., FAAP, CHAIR

Minutes approved on:

2025 Meetings

All Meetings held at DTCC, DelOne Conference Rm, Dover

Wednesday September 24, 2025, 10:30am-12:00pm

Tuesday November 18, 2025, 10:30am-12:00pm