

Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Services

July 10, 2025

Current MIECS Programs

- ▶ Healthy Start (HS)
- ▶ Tribal MIECHV (THV)
- ▶ CIRCLE-HV
- ▶ State Home Visiting Expansion
- ▶ FFPSA (Family First Prevention Services Act)
- ▶ NAS-SOR4 (Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome)
- ▶ Increasing Health Literacy
- ▶ Infant Safe Sleep



Maternal Child Advisory Council (MCAC)

All are welcome to join, and regular attendees include home visitors, home visiting clients, ITCMI department staff, and community partners (MSU, GSRP, Family Spirit).

The MCAC meets monthly via Zoom. Current home visiting clients can receive a \$50 Amazon gift card for attending.

Meeting agendas include community/peer sharing, MIECS program updates, and time for the group to provide feedback on program materials and implementation.

For more information or to join the MCAC e-mail list, please reach out to Josie Babcock (josie.babcock@itcmi.org)

Upcoming Meetings:

July 16th @ 12pm

August 20th @ 12pm

September 17th @ 3pm



Healthy Start Program Numbers

	Mar-25	Apr-25	May-25	JAN 1 – December 31, 2025
Data Elements	(New) Total HS Program Reported No.”	(New) Total HS Program Reported No.”	(New) Total HS Program Reported No.”	Total all HS Served
				Year-to-Date Reported No.
Pregnant Women served	12	6	3	89
IC Women served	4	2	4	153
Infants (0-11 months) served	6	8	14	109
Children (12-18 months) served	1	2	0	96
Males served	1	3	2	40
Total Program Participants	24	21	23	487
(within the past month and Year- to-Date)				
No. Live Births	8	7	3	32
No. Low Birth Weight Births	1	0	1	3
No. Preterm Births	3	0	0	4
No. Infant deaths	0	0	0	0

Tribal Home Visiting

AIHFS, BMIC, KBIC, LTBB, LVD, NHBP, Pokagon, SCIT

- ▶ Currently in Year 2 of 5-year grant cycle (FY ends 9/29/25)
- ▶ THV Implementation Plan approved for May 1st, 2025

Grantees under the Tribal MIECHV program must collect, analyze, use, and report data on program implementation and improvements for eligible families and participating in the program in the legislatively-mandated benchmark areas of:

- I) Improved maternal, newborn, and child health
- II) Prevention of child injuries, child abuse, neglect, or maltreatment and reduction of ER visits
- III) Improvements in school readiness and child academic achievement
- IV) Reductions in crime or domestic violence
- V) Improvements in family economic self-sufficiency
- VI) Improvements in the coordination and referrals for other community resources and supports



Program Director: Amanda Bahrou
E-mail: amanda@itcmi.org

THV Data and Reporting Manager:
Josie Babcock
E-mail: josie.babcock@itmci.org

Grantees must report on all 12 core measures and select 3 flex measures that are ideally aligned with their model goals & target population.

Implementation Highlights

- **Expansion from 6 to 8 partnering sites to include SCIT and Pokagon**
- Inclusion of Gikinawaabi Seasonal Safety Lessons to count toward Child Injury Prevention measure (in addition to 7 FS Lessons)
- Change to how we count program "completion" - Families have completed the program when they out of the program or when the family determines their needs have been met and wish to exit the program.
- Change in Flex Measures
 - ❖ Breastfeeding – Percentage participants enrolled prior to child's birth who initiate breastfeeding
 - ❖ *Safe Sleep* – Percentage of primary caregivers educated about the importance of putting infants to sleep on their backs, without bed-sharing and soft-bedding
 - ❖ Completed depression or parenting stress referrals – Percentage of primary caregivers screening positive for depression using a validated tool who receive a referral for services

Tribal Home Visiting Program Numbers

Quarter 2 (Jan - April)

- ▶ 33 new households enrolled
- ▶ 180 continuing households (enrolled before Q2)
- ▶ 2 households completed the program
- ▶ 21 households stopped services
- ▶ 16 inactive households with no visit in Q2 that are still active



ITCMI staff are currently completing QA/data cleaning for Q3 Quarterly Report due July 30th. In September, we will be prepping and cleaning data for Annual Reporting.

CIRCLE-HV

ITCMI and the Michigan Public Health Institute (MPHI) received a 3-year Research Practice Partnership grant from the Center for Indigenous Research Collaborations and Learning from Home Visiting (CIRCLE-HV). The project focuses on refining and validating the Caregiver Stress and Resilience measure developed during a previous THV evaluation study. This project counts toward the THV evaluation requirement of contributing to the THV learning agenda.



- ▶ Year 2 began on June 1st
 - ▶ Application for IRB approval was submitted on June 13th. It may take a few months to hear back.
 - ▶ Year 2 activities include:
 - ▶ Key Informant Interviews with Home Visiting Clients
 - ▶ Key Informant Interviews with Knowledge Holders
 - ▶ Focus Groups with Home Visitors
 - ▶ Revision of the measure based on feedback
 - ▶ Revised measure can be utilized by all home visiting Tribal partners.
- ▶ The CIRCLE-HV project team meets regularly with the HV Network and Maternal Child Advisory Council to provide project updates and receive feedback.

ITCMI Project Team: Amanda Bahrou,
Josie Babcock, Madison Lamma

FFPSA

We have officially welcomed the Pokagon Band of Potawatomi to our FFPSA/Family Spirit Program! They join Bay Mills Indian Community, Keweenaw Bay Indian Community and Lac Vieux Desert.

The amendment for eligibility requirements has been passed at the State level and is under Federal review. If these changes are approved, current or recent CPS/Tribal social services involvement will no longer be an eligibility requirement for families to enroll into the program.

This will allow tribes to:

- Identify and serve at-risk families
- Complete referrals for families
- Provide proactive prevention services

Program Manager: Shentele Apps
E-mail: shentele.apps@itcmi.org



SOR 4 Tribal Perinatal Opioid Use Disorder Project / NAS

- ▶ The SOR4 Tribal Perinatal Opioid Use Disorder 2025 Annual State Desk Audit has been completed.
- ▶ The Desk Audit site visit will take place virtually with the State staff and that will be July 9, 2025 at 10:30 am.
- ▶ Jessica Thompson is the new NAS Project Coordinator. She is working on updating the ITC Substance Use Disorder lesson.
- ▶ Any suggestions for trainings you would like to see ITCMI provide or bring to the tribes related to SUD/MOUD/MAT and OEND (opioid education naloxone distribution). Please contact Connie or Jessica.
- ▶ Jessica will be trained to provide Naloxone general and train-the-trainer education in the near future. If your tribe has an interest in this training, please reach out to Jessica or Connie.

Program Director: Connie DePlonty
E-mail: connied@itcmi.org
Program Coordinator:

SOR-4/NAS Community Training Opportunities

- ▶ Raeanne Madison, Postpartum Healing Lodge will have a Plan of Selfcare workbook available soon. This workbook can be used by all home visiting staff and includes education and support strategies when working with high-risk families.

Increasing Health Literacy

Project dates: October 1st, 2023 - September 30th, 2025

IHL is a 2-year grant funded by the Michigan Health Endowment Fund with the goal of increasing access to culturally-relevant perinatal and youth mental health resources in the EUP and across ITCMI's Home Visiting Network.

Currently Project Activities

- ▶ Youth Mental Health Posters
- ▶ Supporting Families and Youth Infographic
- ▶ Strong Minds, Strong Families Health and Parenting Podcast
- ▶ Daddy Bootcamp in Sault Ste. Marie on July 19th, 2025
- ▶ Yoga & Mindfulness with Sault Tribe YEA on July 10th

Project resources can be found on the ITCMI website.



Program Manager: Josie Babcock
E-mail: josie.babcock@itcmi.org
Program Coordinator: Madison Lamma
E-mail: mlamma@itcmi.org

MIECS Staff Contact Information



Amanda Bahrou - Department Director,
THV Program Director
E-mail: Amanda@itcmi.org
Phone: 906-322-0276



Sandy Thompson - Administrative Assistant
E-mail: sthompson@itcmi.org
Phone: 906-632-6896 ext. 120



Josie Babcock - Assistant Department Director,
THV Data and Reporting Manager
E-mail: josie.babcock@itcmi.org
Phone: 906-632-6896 ext. 133

MIECS Staff Contact Information



Devin Smith - Healthy Start and FIMR Project Director
E-mail: devin.smith@itcmi.org
Phone: 906-632-6896 ext. 138



Shentele Apps - FFPSA and Infant Safe Sleep Project Director
E-mail: shentele.apps@itcmi.org
Phone: 906-632-6896 ext. 111



Connie Deplonty - NAS Project Director
E-mail: connied@itcmi.org
Phone: 906-632-6896 ext. 129

MIECS Staff Contact Information



Madison Lamma - Increasing Healthy Literacy and THV Program
Coordinator
E-mail: mlamma@itcmi.org
Phone: 906-632-6896 ext. 123



Jessica Thompson - NAS and FFPSA Program Coordinator
E-mail: jessica@itcmi.org
Phone: 906-632-6896 ext. 119