Maternal & Early Childhood Services

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Tribal Home Visiting (TMIECHV)

**Amanda Bahrou, Program Director*
**Josie Babcock, Data and Reporting Manager*
**Madison Thompson, Program Coordinator*

Partnering Sites (8): American Indian Health and Family Services - Detroit, Bay Mills Indian Community, Keweenaw Bay Indian Community, Lac Vieux Desert Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians, Little Traverse Bay Band of Odawa Indians, Nottawaseppi Huron Band of Potawatomi, Pokagon Band of Potawatomi, and Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe.

- Year 4 (FY27) began September 30th.
- Annual reporting is underway.
- Annual Reports (ITCM Completes):
    - Demographic and Service Utilization Data Report (DSUR): 10/31/2026
    - Performance Measurement Data Report (PMR): 10/31/2026
    - Annual Narrative Report: 12/31/2026
- A MIECHV Expansion Notice of Funding Opportunity is expected to be released in the next few months for sites who currently do not have TMIECHV funds. The following tribes are eligible: Sault Tribe, Gun Lake Tribe, GTB, LRBOI. Please reach out to Josie Babcock (josie.babcock@itcmi.org) if your site is interested or to learn more.

CIRCLE-HV (All HV Tribal Partners)

- 2021-2023: MPHI and ITCM, in collaboration with the HV Network, developed a caregiver resilience and stress measure called Journey with Mino Bimaadiziwin as part of an evaluation requirement with the TMIECHV project

- 2024-2027: We are currently building on this study with a Research Practice Partnership grant from CIRCLE-HV (Center for Indigenous Research Collaborations and Learning from Home Visiting). The current study is seeking to refine and validate the resilience measure using Indigenous research methodology.

- All sites are currently participating in Aim 3 - Administration of the Revised Measure. Through December 2026, Home Visitors are administering the measure to recruited home visiting clients twice, two weeks apart. This will allow us to test the reliability of the measure and to gain feedback from home visitors and clients on administration.

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State Home Visiting Expansion

**Madison Thompson, Program Manager*

- State Home Visiting Expansion services are supported within the following tribal communities and serve expectant families with young children aged birth to 5 years old. Implementing high-quality, culturally relevant, evidence-based home visiting programs in AI/AN communities utilizing the Family Spirit Curriculum.
    - Little River Band of Odawa Indians
    - Pokagon Band of Potawatomi
    - Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians
- Annual State Reporting will be prepared in October, so we ask that sites begin completing their data cleaning and checking for any missing or incomplete information.

Families First Prevention Services Act (FFPSA)

**Shentele Apps, Program Manager*

Partnering Sites (6): Bay Mills Indian Community, Keweenaw Bay Indian Community, Lac Vieux Desert Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians, Nottawaseppi Huron Band of Potawatomi, Pokagon Band of Potawatomi, and Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe

- We are anticipating the federal policy will be changed within the next few months. This will include a new referral form from new referral pathways, which will include our home visitors and providers at each Tribal site. More families will be served as we move this program into a truly preventative service. Any families who qualify for Family Spirit, will then qualify for our FFPSA/Title IV-E Family Spirit.
- Please reach out to Shentele Apps if your site is interested in receiving Mandated Reporter Training.

Fetal Infant Mortality Review (FIMR)

**Alicia Gervais, Project Coordinator*

- Alicia is planning to re-engage our FIMR workgroup this year with a Case Review Team (CRT). She is currently undergoing preliminary FIMR training.
- October is Infant Safe Sleep Month in Michigan calling attention to how babies can sleep the safest.

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SOR 4 – Tribal Perinatal Opioid Use Disorder Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome Initiative (NAS)

**Jessica Thompson, Program Manager*
**Alicia Gervais, Program Coordinator*

Partnering Sites (8): Direct care coordination services are supposed in six tribal communities: Bay Mills Indian Community, Hannahville Indian Community, Keweenaw Bay Indian Community, Lac Vieux Desert Tribe of Chippewa Indians, Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe, and Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians. Nottawaseppi Huron Band of Potawatomi and Pokagon Band of Potawatomi are in the process of implementing in-home counseling services for clients.

- Please reach out to Jessica if you would like a virtual or in-person training on how to administer Naloxone or if you would like a Naloxone Overdose Prevention Kit.
- NAS is running a media campaign for all 8 NAS tribes in September-December. The recent NAS video that was created at the Mary Murray Culture Camp on Sugar Island, MI will be used. The message/call to action is to support families affected by substance use by encouraging them to seek help through resources and care-coordination.
- NAS partnered with Raeanne Madison of Post-Partum Healing Lodge to create a five-part webinar series titled, “Breastfeeding: First Traditional Food Training Series.” All five webinars have been completed. The first four webinars (How Milk Is Made, The Golden Hour, Supporting Families in Recovery, and Family Sleep Health) are posted on Inter-Tribal Council’s YouTube page. The fifth session was held live, online in August, and participants engaged in fictional case studies to practice how they would approach situations as a doula.
- NAS partnered with Raeanne to create the “Plan of Self-Care for Native American Women and Mothers in Recovery” workbook. Workbook updates: Information added; affirmations in Anishinaabemowin with English translations, resource list, doula care, and concerns related to MAT (medication-assisted treatment). Revised and updated workbooks should be completed by the end of October with hard copies available.

Infant Safe Sleep (All HV Tribal Partners)

**Shentele Apps, Program Manager*

- During FY26, pack n plays, sleep sacks and cribettes were distributed throughout Michigan tribal communities. Over 500 cradleboard t-shirts were also distributed amongst the tribes.
- October is Safe Sleep Month. Resources including social media graphics are available through MDHHS.
- The new cradle board educational videos have been recorded and are in the process of being finalized. Once completed, the videos will be available on our ITC website under the Infant Safe Sleep Program and other ITC socials. The videos will also be sent to our home visiting network for home visitors and providers to utilize with families.

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Expanding Access to Rapid Syphilis Testing Through Family Spirit Home Visits: A Pilot Study with Johns Hopkins in Tribal Communities

**Sandy Thompson, Program Contact*

Partnering Sites (4): American Indian Health and Family Services - Detroit, Nottawaseppi Huron Band of the Potawatomi, Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe, and Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians

- This project is for integration of rapid-syphilis self-testing into home visiting. It is an FDA approved test, much like a COVID test, but it is self-administered. The project hopes to gain understanding about how home visiting might be a successful strategy to increase awareness, testing, and early treatment.

Healthy Start

**Amanda Bahrou, Program Manager*

Partnering Sites (9): American Indian Health and Family Services - Detroit, Bay Mills Indian Community, Hannahville Indian Community, Keweenaw Bay Indian Community, Little River Band of Ottawa Indians, Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians, Nottawaseppi Huron Band of Potawatomi Indians, Pokagon Band of Potawatomi, and Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe

- Fiscal Year 2026 ends March 31, 2027.
- Group sessions in Ingham and Jackson Counties continue through our partnership with MSU.
- Healthy Start Behavioral Health Services are available to all Healthy Start clients and are provided by Debbie Sirk.

Year to Date Program Numbers	
Prenatal	111
Postpartum	165
Infants (0 - 11 months)	108
Children (12 – 18 months)	134
Males	57
Total Participants	575

Maternal and Early Childhood Services Contact Information

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