

## P3 Policy Priorities &amp; Action Team Toolkit: Preventative Care

Can Michigan really help 41,750 more families with infants and toddlers get the early childhood services they need? With your voice, we can!

Thank you for taking action!

As an early childhood expert and a member of the Pritzker-funded Michigan Prenatal-to-Three Collaborative, you know that the first three years of a child's life are critical — a formative period that can lay the groundwork for the best possible outcomes throughout a child's life.

Across Michigan, tens of thousands of families with infants and toddlers are not able to access the high-quality programs, services and opportunities they need to raise healthy and thriving children. You can make a difference.

This **P3 Policy Priorities & Action Team Toolkit** will facilitate conversations on five infant-toddler policy priority areas. Together, we'll gather input, insight and ideas from as many parents, caregivers, providers, teachers, health care professionals, administrators, community leaders, advocates and agency directors as possible.

If you have questions or additional needs during this important and powerful process, please contact us: [ta@ecic4kids.org](mailto:ta@ecic4kids.org) | 855.790.4900. Additional resources and information can be found at [ecic4kids.org/p3action](http://ecic4kids.org/p3action).

Thank you for helping craft Michigan's Prenatal-to-Three policy agenda. Let's make Michigan the top state to have a baby and raise a child!

## Taking action is as easy as 1, 2, 3 ...

**Step 1:** Host a discussion using the sample agendas and discussion questions in this toolkit, either in existing meetings or at a new gathering.

**Step 2:** Take notes on your group's ideas and submit them online at [ecic4kids.org/p3action](http://ecic4kids.org/p3action).

**Step 3:** Save the date for Jan. 23, 2020, when we release the final policy report. See how your voice made a difference and learn about steps you can take in 2020 to help Michigan achieve our collective goals.

## Suggested Agendas

**If you have 30 minutes:**

- Review **Michigan by the Numbers** data.
- Facilitate three to five **Discussion Questions** with parents and/or providers.
- Take notes and report at [www.ecic4kids.org/p3action](http://www.ecic4kids.org/p3action).

**If you have 60 minutes:**

- Review **Michigan by the Numbers** data.
- Facilitate three to five **Discussion Questions** with parents and/or providers.
- Select three to five **Potential Policy Solutions** for reflection.
- Take notes and report at [www.ecic4kids.org/p3action](http://www.ecic4kids.org/p3action).

**If you have 90 minutes:**

- Review **Michigan by the Numbers** data.
- Facilitate five to eight **Discussion Questions** with parents and/or providers.
- Facilitate reflection on all **Potential Policy Solutions**.
- Take notes and report at [www.ecic4kids.org/p3action](http://www.ecic4kids.org/p3action).

## Michigan by the Numbers: Preventative Care

In Michigan, there are currently

# 167,000 infants and toddlers

in families who live at or below 200% of the federal poverty level.



## 32.5%

of live births are to women who receive less than adequate prenatal care.

That's 

# 36,926

 women.

Michigan has a

# 6.7%

infant mortality rate.

That's an average of

# 758

babies who die per year.

# 167,000

total infants and toddlers in families that currently qualify for and potentially need preventative care services.

### What is Preventative Care?

*I need help finding a pediatrician ...*

*My children have never seen a dentist ...*

*I couldn't access good care while I was pregnant ...*

In order to support the health, development and well-being of all young children in Michigan, families need access to comprehensive, family centered care in a medical and dental home, with professionals who are trained to work with young children and their families.

***We want to increase the number of women and children receiving preventative care in Michigan.***

The following questions are intended to be asked directly of parents and providers.

**Submit your input at [www.ecic4kids.org/p3action](http://www.ecic4kids.org/p3action).**

### Questions for Parents:

1. Do your children have a pediatrician they see regularly?
  - a. If yes, what has your experience been?
    - i. Where did you learn about the health options that are available to you?
  - b. If not, why not?
    - i. Where do you take your children for well-child visits, immunizations and/or when they are sick?
2. Do your children have a dentist they see regularly?
  - a. If yes, what has your experience been?
    - i. Where did you learn about the dental options that are available to you?
  - b. If not, why not?
    - i. Where do you take your children when they have dental issues?
3. What barriers, if any, make it difficult for you to take your children to regular well-child or annual dental check-ups?
4. Thinking back on your interactions with pediatricians and dentists who you have seen with your children, do you feel they were knowledgeable and respectful of your family culture and values?
5. From your perspective, what's working well related to medical support of pregnant women?
6. What barriers prevented or made it difficult for you to access prenatal care services?

### Questions for Providers:

1. What are your challenges?
2. Have you experienced a lot of workforce turnover?
3. What's working well?
4. Has your community developed solutions, such as doing things to work around the system to help families who need preventative care services?
  - a. What are those?

The following questions are intended to spark a discussion with your groups.

These **Potential Policy Solutions** are the result of Michigan's Prenatal-to-Three Collaborative working sessions and need your expert experiences to make them as actionable and realistic as possible.

### **Things to think about and record:**

- What are your reactions to these **Potential Policy Solutions**?
- How do each of these solutions make you feel?
- Would these address your challenges?
- If you had to prioritize the solutions, what order would you place them in?
- What holes would you poke in these potential solutions?
- What aren't we asking or thinking about?

**Submit your input at [www.ecic4kids.org/p3action](http://www.ecic4kids.org/p3action).**

### **Solution One**

Fund statewide and county-specific Children's Health Care Access Programs by exploring the option of creating Medicaid billable reimbursement for CHAP coordination.

### **Solution Two**

Support pediatric-trained provider workforce recruitment and retention efforts, especially in underserved and rural communities.

### **Solution Three**

Increase capacity, training and compensation for trauma-informed and socio-emotional care providers.

### **Solution Four**

Examine geographic and racial/ethnic disparities and cultural concerns that may deter or prevent families from accessing preventative care.

### **Solution Five**

Tell us your ideas! What policy solutions would you suggest?

**Facilitators: Interested in more policy ideas and information?**

Visit <https://www.ecic4kids.org/toolkits/>.

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