

Quarterly Newsletter

October 2023 | Georgia Perinatal Quality Collaborative | Edition #2

GaPQC Updates

Thinking about your next maternal impact initiative? We are happy to announce **Wave 2** enrollment for the **Cardiac Conditions in Obstetric Care (CCOC)** initiative is now **OPEN!** You can download and complete the enrollment [HERE](#) or visit www.georgiapqc.com/cardiac-conditions to learn more.

The GaPQC Admin Team will be attending the **National Network of Perinatal Quality Collaboratives Annual Meeting** in Denver, Colorado **December 5th-6th**. We look forward to hearing from other state PQC's and sharing our efforts here in Georgia.

We would like to celebrate Kimberly Ross' **transition** as the **GaPQC Neonatal QI Lead to Director of Child Health** within the Division of Women, Children, & Nursing Services. We are now seeking the right candidate to support our neonatal initiatives. If you are passionate about neonatal QI and would like to **join us** in our mission to improve the quality of care and outcomes for Georgia mothers and babies, you can **apply** for this role [HERE](#).

GaPQC has launched our **Persons with Lived Experience (PLE)** program where we will be **recruiting** PLE's to join our committees and activities to ensure the voice of PLE's are heard & acknowledged in every improvement and education effort.

SAVE THE DATE: GaPQC's Annual Conference will be held April 25th & 26th, 2024. More information TBA!

Celebrating the Bright Spots

CHOA Egleston's NICU

Staff members from CHOA Egleston's NICU (pictured) welcomed members from the GaPQC Neonatal Committee for the first Optimizing Newborn Nutrition Initiative site visit on August 16th. Committee members toured the unit, conducted interviews with staff members and families, and met with leadership. Thank you to Egleston for being wonderful hosts and highlighting your improvement work around neonatal nutrition. The Committee would like to conduct additional site visits, so please reach out to Kimberly (Kimberly.Ross@dph.ga.gov) if you are interested in your site hosting a visit.

SUBMIT YOUR "BRIGHT SPOT" [HERE!](#)



Dates to Remember

September 15th - October 15th, 2023

National Hispanic Heritage Month
This year's national theme: ***Todos Somos, Somos Uno: We Are All, We Are One***

October is Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (**SIDS**) Awareness Month

October 25th (12:30 pm-1:30 pm)
EPIC Breastfeeding Webinar with the Georgia Breastfeeding Coalition- "Beyond the Pump & Dump: Medications, Vaccines, & Use of Human Milk." Register [here](#).

November 3rd & 10th (8:30 am-12:30 pm)
National SPEAK UP Champion Conference- Implicit and Explicit Racial Bias Education Register [here](#).

Additional Resources

Postpartum Recovery Red Flags Series:
Our partners at [4th Trimester Project](#) teamed up with [Bloom Maternal Health](#) to discuss postpartum recovery red flags and alerts mothers, parents, and their support networks of what to look for during pregnancy or after delivery. Watch [here](#).

NHSC Students to Service Loan Repayment Application:

(open through 12/7/23)
Final-year students (PA, NP, certified nurse midwife, medical doctor, or dentist) can apply for awards up to \$120,000 in exchange for a 3-year commitment providing primary care services at NHSC-approved sites in high-need area.

NEW! Maternity Care Provider Supplemental Award- up to \$40,000 for eligible disciplines- physicians specializing in obstetrics/ gynecology or family medicine physicians who practice obstetrics on a regular basis, as well as certified nurse midwives.

Patient/Provider Corner

GaPQC welcomes our new Neonatal Co-Chair, **Dr. Allison Thomas Rose**, from Children's Healthcare of Atlanta and Emory University

In the News

The Georgia Maternal Mortality Review Committee (MMRC) has identified cardiomyopathy and cardiac and coronary conditions as leading causes of pregnancy-related deaths during 2018-2020 in Georgia. There is a **call to action** for cardiologists that provide care to women during pregnancy and postpartum to engage in GaPQC's new **Cardiac Conditions in Obstetric Care** initiative and to become part of a **cardiology referral network** to ensure timely and appropriate referrals to care. Read more about it [here](#).

[Gestational Diabetes and Long-Term Cardiometabolic Health](#)

[Perinatal Care Measures Are Incomplete If They Do Not Assess The Birth Parent-Infant Dyad As A Whole](#)

[Medicaid Payment For Postpartum Long-Acting Reversible Contraception Prompts More Equitable Use](#)

Respectful, Equitable, and Supportive Care Resources

Before Birth & Beyond: A new equity-focused NICHQ podcast dedicated to discussing pressing issues in MCH through the lens of shared learning, action, and impact.

- Listen to a candid conversation about maternal mental health and gaps in support
- Hear from men's health expert who discusses men's mental health and strategies for better engaging fathers and men from historically marginalized communities.

Culturally and Linguistically Appropriate Services (CLAS) in Maternal Health Care: a free 2-hour e-learning program related to cultural competency, cultural humility, person-centered care, and combating implicit bias across the continuum of maternal health care

Foundations of Health Equity Self-Guided Training Plan: a self-guided, online training plan is designated to facilitate foundational knowledge and skill development on topics related to health equity, health disparities, and structural and social determinants of health.

Z Codes: Social Determinants of Health (SDOH)-related Z codes range from ICD-10-CM categories Z55-Z65 and are used to document SDOH data (e.g., housing, food insecurities, lack of transportation)

- View the Z code Informatic [here](#) on how to improve the collection of SDOH with ICD-10-CM Z Codes
- See the [journey map](#) to using SDOH Z codes to enhance you QI initiatives