

Utah Women & Newborns Quality Collaborative (UWNQC) 2022 annual report

Thank you for your dedication to the mission of UWNQC and for your time volunteering to help with quality improvement projects. You and your teams helped to develop various community resources, such as the [Maternal Mental Health Toolkit](#). We received funding for a new CDC Cooperative Agreement to reduce maternal health disparities. We also were able to share UWNQC progress with various audiences.

“Fill your cup with kindness, love, laughter, understanding, hope, peace and gratitude.”

As we continue to work on filling our cups and the cups of others, I express my gratitude to you. Thank you for the opportunity to serve as Board Chair and for improving the health of Utah moms and babies.

*Angela Anderson,
CNM, DNP,
UWNQC Board Chair*

Utah Women and Newborn Quality Collaborative (UWNQC) is a state-wide, multi-stakeholder network dedicated to improving perinatal health in the state.

Vision:

Save lives in Utah by improving perinatal health outcomes.

Mission:

Improve maternal and neonatal outcomes through collaborative efforts centered around quality improvement methodology and data sharing.



UWNQC committee highlights

Committee to improve maternal outcomes

The committee continued to make progress on the Latina/Hispanic maternal toolkit which provides information on community resources for things like access to care, food, health insurance, and housing and utilities. The toolkit also provides information on how to access WIC and Medicaid for emergency services. Interviews with providers, community organization leaders, and patients were conducted to provide data on the needs of Latina/Hispanic women, barriers to accessing care, and how to improve their experiences with the healthcare system. This information provided insights for the CDC Perinatal Quality Collaborative Cooperative Agreement, which was awarded in September 2022. The committee will continue to work with the Latina/Hispanic, Black, and Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander communities.

Committee chair: Frank Powers Email: fpowers@chc-ut.org

Committee to develop out-of-hospital birth resources

Letters were sent to Utah birthing hospitals with out-of-hospital (OOH) resources and intrapartum maternal transfer data from 2019- 2021. The committee continued to make progress with developing the online training modules. The committee provided feedback on the content for the EMS and OOH provider online modules. Stickers and business cards were created to publicize the transfer feedback surveys. The transfer forms were updated and streamlined. Changes to birth certificates were discussed along with ways to collect transfer data in the future. Presentations to share committee progress were given at the Utah Midwives Organization annual conference, Alaska Out-of-Hospital Birth Group, and Utah Midwives Organization conference. Revisions were made to the OOH Birth report, with the goal of publishing data from 2016-2020 in 2023. An infographic on OOH births was created. Finally, an online newsletter to the OOH birth community was launched that shares resources, communicates practice recommendations, and provides information on upcoming trainings and conferences. If you would like to receive the newsletter, send an email to dearmidwife@utah.gov.

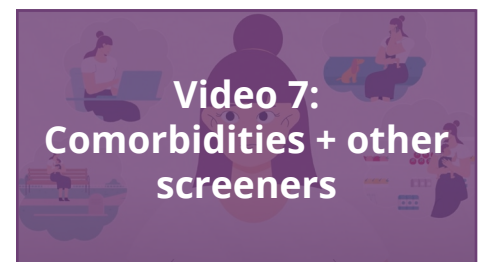
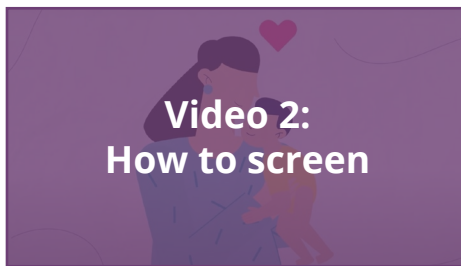
Committee chair: Erin Clark Email: erin.clark@hsc.utah.edu

Committee to improve maternal mental health

The committee released the Maternal Mental Health Toolkit, which has resources for anyone working with perinatal parents and their children. The toolkit includes patient screening and referral resources, patient-focused handouts, provider resources for implementation, crisis-based resources, and supplemental screening instruments. It is available once you complete a [survey](#) to request access. The committee also produced 7 training videos on various aspects of the toolkit.

The [Maternal Mental Health Resource Network](#) was added as a resource on the Utah 211 website. Jade Hill was hired as the maternal mental health specialist at the Utah Department of Health and Human Services. She can be reached at jhill@utah.gov.

Committee chair: [Gwen Latendresse](mailto:gwen.latendresse@nurs.utah.edu) Email: gwen.latendresse@nurs.utah.edu



Committee to improve neonatal outcomes

The committee is working on family engagement in the NICU, specifically focusing on family-centered care with early parent involvement. The project includes the primary drivers of participation, dignity and respect, collaboration, and information sharing. The goal of this project is to have the parents hold their baby in the NICU as soon as possible and increase the number of nurturing encounters provided by a parent.

Committee chair: [Jessica Davidson](mailto:jessica.davidson@hsc.utah.edu) Email: jessica.davidson@hsc.utah.edu

Committee to implement safety bundles

Hospitals in Utah and Wyoming are collaborating to implement the AIM patient safety bundle, "Care for Pregnant and Postpartum People with Substance Use Disorder (SUD)." The committee has been working with participating hospitals to collect data measures including the percentage of pregnant and postpartum people screened for SUD. Lessons learned from implementing the safety bundle were presented at the Quality Improvement Community of Learning through the National Institute for Children's Health Quality, North/South Dakota SUD implementation meeting, and AIM annual meeting. A summary of the findings from the "Breaking Through Implicit Bias in Maternal Healthcare" online class and debrief sessions was presented to the steering committee. The [pregnancy and opioid resources webpage](#) is now available on the Utah 211 website. [Community substance use disorder resources](#) by local health district have been compiled.

Committee chair: Heather Sarin Email: hsarin@utah.gov

UWNQC highlights

269

Out-of-hospital birth transfer feedback surveys received to date.

46

Utah labor and delivery departments received *Passion for Patients* care packages.

12

Presentations on UWNQC projects.

6

Interns helped with various projects.

5

UWNQC committees with 200+ volunteer members.

1

Perinatal quality collaborative CDC cooperative agreement awarded

1
Substance use disorder resources guide by local health district.

Data collected from hospitals on the AIM substance use disorder patient safety bundle.

UWNQC member spotlight



Jessica Morales is a family medicine physician and an obesity medicine fellow in the Department of Endocrinology, Metabolism and Diabetes at the University of Utah. She completed a Bachelor of Science degree in nutrition and dietetics at Utah State University, attended medical school at Geisinger Commonwealth School of Medicine, and finished a family medicine residency at the University of Utah. She is interested in preventive medicine, health disparities, women's health, managing chronic diseases, and advocacy in medicine. Jessica helped conduct needs assessment interviews with Hispanic/Latina clinicians and patients for the Maternal Committee. Thank you, Jessica!

Thank you to our partners!



We'd love to hear your ideas and suggestions.

Send an email to UWNQC@utah.gov or call (801) 273-2865.