WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THE TITLE V NEEDS & CAPACITY ASSESSMENT?

Every five years, Pennsylvania’s Maternal and Child Health (MCH) Services Title V Block Grant requires that the Bureau of Family Health conduct a state-level, comprehensive assessment of the health status of women, children, adolescents and children and youth with special health care needs in Pennsylvania to identify priority health needs and to guide state and local public health work. During this assessment, the Bureau of Family Health also evaluates its capacity to serve the MCH populations.

The guiding principle of the 2020 needs assessment is health equity. Health equity is achieved when all people can attain health and wellness. As such, the goal of this assessment is to analyze data and gather information from stakeholders to characterize the health issues facing the MCH populations. This assessment also aims to identify specific groups that cannot attain health and wellness because they are unduly underserved and/or are disproportionately affected by illness, disease or mortality. Underlying determinants of health such as social, economic or environmental factors or disadvantages will also be analyzed and addressed. The results from the assessment will be used to identify seven to 10 specific priorities that can be positively impacted by strategic public health work over the next five years (2021 to 2025). State and local Title V staff will use the selected priorities to focus efforts, align resources and make a positive impact on the health of the MCH populations.

WHAT ARE THE COMPONENTS OF OUR NEEDS ASSESSMENT?

The needs and capacity assessment is a multi-step process made up of many component parts. Preparation for the assessment includes reviewing the guidance provided by HRSA’s Maternal and Child Health Bureau, assembling an internal needs assessment steering committee and developing the assessment timeline, guiding principle(s) and work plan.

The next step includes collecting and analyzing quantitative and qualitative data to assess health status and to evaluate the Title V program’s current capacity. Results from the quantitative and qualitative data collection and from the capacity assessment will then be utilized to identify priority health needs that can be feasibly addressed by the Title V Program. Stakeholder input is sought at various times throughout the assessment and is critical to informing the final prioritization of the MCH health needs that will be addressed over the next five years.

HOW DOES THE NEEDS & CAPACITY ASSESSMENT AFFECT ME?

The seven to 10 priorities that are selected through the needs assessment process will be incorporated into the State Action Plan and will drive the issues state and local Title V programs, staff and grantees address over the next five years (2021-2025). Maternal and child health professionals and Title V staff will develop and implement programs and strategies that aim to address these priorities. The goal is to promote and improve the health and well-being of women, children, adolescents, children and youth with special health care needs and their families.
### PREPARATION: OCTOBER – NOVEMBER 2018

- Review Title V Maternal and Child Health (MCH) Block Grant guidance
- Establish an internal Needs Assessment Steering Committee
- Establish a timeline and work plan
- Identify guiding principles and framework
- Request access to national, state and local data sources

### DECEMBER 2018 – JUNE 2019

#### ASSESS HEALTH STATUS OF MCH POPULATIONS

Characterize health status among MCH populations by analyzing indicators of health and wellness, health risk factors and morbidity and mortality using mixed research methods.

**QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE DATA**

- County and Municipal Health Department Assessments
- Web survey of providers/partners and service recipients
- Geospatial data

**QUANTITATIVE DATA**

- Summary statistics from existing datasets (i.e. National Survey on Children’s Health, Pregnancy Risk Assessment and Monitoring System (PRAMS))
- Trend analysis of health indicators over time
- Comparison to Healthy People 2020 Goals
- Identify health disparities and underlying determinants

**QUALITATIVE DATA**

- Focus groups and/or key informant interviews with stakeholders, including providers/Title V partners and service recipients

#### ASSESS STATE PROGRAM CAPACITY

Evaluate the Program’s ability to provide comprehensive health services to MCH populations by characterizing existing public health infrastructure and workforce capacity.

**INFRASTRUCTURE**

- Organizational structure of the Department of Health
- Organizational structure of the Title V Program
- Health care providers per population and distribution of facilities across the state

**WORKFORCE CAPACITY**

- Resources and staffing
- Staff training and public health competencies
- State agency collaborations
- Partnerships with families and recipients of care

#### ENGAGE STAKEHOLDERS TO REVIEW RESULTS OF ASSESSMENT AND SELECT PENNSYLVANIA TITLE V PRIORITIES

June 2019 – October 2019

#### SUBMIT TITLE V BLOCK GRANT WITH NEW PRIORITIES

July 2020

#### IMPLEMENT STATE AND LOCAL MCH PUBLIC HEALTH STRATEGIES TO ADDRESS NEW PRIORITIES

2021-2025