

## TITLE V FIVE YEAR NEEDS & CAPACITY ASSESSMENT

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

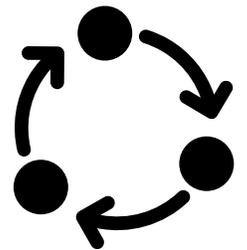
Every five years, Pennsylvania’s Title V Maternal and Child Health (MCH) Services Block Grant requires that the Bureau of Family Health (BFH) conduct a state-level, comprehensive assessment of the health status of women, birthing people, children, adolescents, and children and youth with special health care needs to identify the priority health needs that will guide state and local public health work funded by Title V. During this assessment, the BFH also evaluates its capacity to serve the MCH populations. 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. State and local Title V staff will identify and implement evidence-based strategies with the goal of making a positive impact on the selected priorities and the health of the MCH populations.

### WHAT ARE THE GUIDING PRINCIPLES OF THE ASSESSMENT?

The guiding principles of the 2025 needs and capacity assessment are health equity, life course theory, and community engagement. Health equity is achieved when all people can attain health and wellness. This assessment will put the principle of health equity into practice by using data to identify populations unable to attain health and wellness, centering the populations experiencing the poorest health outcomes, and assessing and naming the root causes of health problems and inequities. Life course theory is the idea that exposures and experiences that occur over the course of a person’s life as well as the social, economic, and physical environments in which we live influence health and wellness. This theory is important to consider when identifying public health strategies and by applying this theory and perspective we hope to identify approaches which target the root causes of priority health issues. Finally, we seek to engage the MCH community including clients, families, and partners throughout the needs assessment to center the voices of those we serve and deepen our partnerships.

### WHAT ARE THE COMPONENTS OF OUR NEEDS ASSESSMENT?

The needs and capacity assessment is a multi-step process and the specific steps are outlined on page 2. Preparation for the assessment includes developing a timeline and work plan, identifying the guiding principles, convening a needs assessment steering committee, requesting access to data sources as needed, and planning for community engagement. The next steps include an environmental scan of existing state and local reports, collection and analysis of quantitative and qualitative data to assess health status, and evaluation of the Title V program’s current capacity. Results from these analyses will then be utilized to identify priority health needs that can be feasibly addressed by the Title V Program. Priority health needs will then be ranked, with input from clients, families, and partners, and the final list of priority health issues will be addressed by Pennsylvania’s Title V program 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 inform which issues state and local Title V programs, staff, and grantees address over the next five years (2026-2030). Maternal and child health professionals and Title V staff will develop and implement programs and strategies that aim to promote and improve the health and well-being of women, children, adolescents, children and youth with special health care needs, and their families.

**GUIDING PRINCIPLES:**

- HEALTH EQUITY
- LIFE COURSE THEORY
- COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

**PREPARATION: OCTOBER 2022 – MARCH 2023**

- Review Title V Maternal and Child Health (MCH) Services Block Grant guidance
- Develop a timeline and work plan
- Convene a Needs and Capacity Assessment Steering Committee
- Identify guiding principles/frameworks and core values
- Request access to national, state, and local data sources
- Establish plan for community engagement and identify opportunities to raise awareness and share information about the assessment with partners

**APRIL – JUNE 2023**

ASSESS HEALTH STATUS OF MCH POPULATIONS	ASSESS STATE PROGRAM CAPACITY
<p>Characterize health status among MCH populations by analyzing indicators of health and wellness, health risk factors, and morbidity and mortality using mixed methods.</p> <p><b>ENVIRONMENTAL SCAN OF MCH REPORTS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identify national, state, and local reports on MCH issues developed by government agencies, community-based organizations, and other partners</li> <li>• Review reports and document priority health needs characterized and described in each</li> </ul> <p><b>QUALITATIVE DATA</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Analysis of key themes identified by respondents of the annual Title V Public Input Survey</li> <li>• Key informant interviews and focus group discussions with providers and other partners</li> </ul> <p><b>QUANTITATIVE DATA</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Analysis of federally available vital statistics and national survey data on Title V performance and outcome measures</li> <li>• Analysis of state-specific preliminary data and BFH-housed datasets to assess trends for other key indicators of population health</li> <li>• Comparison to Healthy People 2030 goals</li> </ul>	<p>Evaluate the Program’s ability to provide comprehensive health services to MCH populations by characterizing existing public health infrastructure and workforce capacity.</p> <p><b>INFRASTRUCTURE</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Organizational structure of the Department of Health</li> <li>• Organizational structure of the Title V Program</li> </ul> <p><b>PARTNERSHIPS/ ENGAGEMENT</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Catalogue existing partnerships and identify gaps and opportunities for improvement</li> <li>• Assess current family and partner engagement methods and identify opportunities for improvement</li> </ul> <p><b>WORKFORCE CAPACITY</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Resources and staffing</li> <li>• Staff training and public health competencies</li> </ul>

**JULY 2023 – JULY 2025**

<b>LIST</b>	Identify an initial list of potential priorities based on takeaways from the health and program capacity assessments
<b>RANK</b>	Criteria-based ranking of the initial list of priorities by the Needs and Capacity Assessment Steering Committee using core values; Identification of narrowed list of potential priorities for ranking by families and partners
	Prioritization events with partners, families and community members, providers, and other state agencies
<b>ANALYZE</b>	Tabulation of rankings from prioritization events and survey; Review and approval of final list of priorities by Department of Health leadership
	Analysis of identified priority health issues, identification of evidence-based strategies, and opportunity to seek input from the public and potential service populations on strategy acceptability and implementation recommendations
<b>ACT</b>	Development of Title V 2025 Action Plan and submission to HRSA by July 2025; Implementation of public health strategies between 2026 and 2030