

## MCH Navigator Fact Sheet

### PROGRAM PURPOSE

The MCH Navigator, a cooperative agreement with Georgetown University, is a learning portal for maternal and child health professionals, students, and others working to improve the health and well-being of women, children, and families. At a time of increased and changing training needs, a shift in the age and public health knowledge of the workforce, and diminished state and local public health budgets, there is a critical need to connect MCH professionals and students to online learning resources that translate competency-based knowledge into action.

The MCH Navigator provides free access to competency-based learning materials to assist professionals and students in gaining knowledge and skills to perform their daily work. The website links to over 400 highly vetted trainings—over 100 that offer continuing education credits—on topics ranging from program planning and management to epidemiology and evaluation. The site also includes:

1. Learning opportunities on how to gain skills necessary to advance the 15 National Performance Measures,
2. An automated self-assessment tool that develops a personalized learning plan, and
3. A series of microlearning programs that deliver learning in manageable bursts.

MCH Navigator materials can be used individually or as part of a group for professional development.

MCH Navigator methodologies are effective: users report an average 25% increase in knowledge and skills from participating in learning programs. Nearly 75,000 learners access the website annually from all states and territories, with 75% returning multiple times.



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### PROGRAM IMPACT

#### Assessing and addressing the state of knowledge and skills in the MCH community

Over 1,500 professionals and students have taken the online self-assessment, yielding over 6,000 data records that indicate the current state of knowledge and skills across the 12 MCH Leadership Competencies.

#### Increasing knowledge and skills of the MCH workforce and students

In the course of a year, data show average increases across 12 MCH Leadership Competencies (on a 5-point scale): knowledge increased 26%, from 3.3 to 4.6; skill level increased 22%, from 3.1 to 4.2.

#### Providing access to high quality, relevant, accessible trainings

MCH Navigator staff search over 250 training sites, discussion lists, and news feeds to find the latest MCH and public health learning opportunities.

#### Alerting the workforce to new knowledge

The quarterly MCH Alert presents both a focus on training and a focus on learning, with one-third of the articles highlighting MCHB-funded trainings and resources. The Alert has a subscriber base of over 5,000 and a secondary reach of over 35,000.

#### Collaborating with state Title V, local public health staff, and key MCH organizations

Title V departments in numerous states, including California, Tennessee, Maryland, Vermont, Kansas, Washington, Ohio, South Dakota, and Wyoming, have developed training programs that utilize the MCH Navigator.

Staff from over 20 state Title V/CYSHCN departments have served as reviewers of MCH Navigator learning opportunities.

Approximately 70% of the MCH Navigator subscriber base represent state and local public health.

The MCH Navigator stretches its impact by collaborating with strategic partners in the field, including the National MCH Workforce Development Center.

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## HOW TO USE

There are four ways that you can use the resources of the MCH Navigator to address your learning needs, either individually or as a group:

### SELF-DIRECTED

*Know what you want to learn about?*

Use these tools to access trainings directly:

- Quick Finds,
- Search Page,
- A-Z Trainings, and
- New Trainings Page

### SEMI-STRUCTURED

*Looking for a more structured learning experience?*

Check out the MCH Navigator's Semi-Structured Learning Resources:

- Core MCH Training Bundles,
- Training Spotlights, and
- Training Briefs.

### SELF-REFLECTIVE

*Not sure about your training needs?*

Map your learning pathway using our online Self-Assessment that can identify your strengths and learning needs, and match your learning needs to appropriate trainings.

### FAST-INTERACTIVE

*Need ongoing, fast learning?*

Try the MCH Navigator's Microlearning Programs. Our programs explore key competencies through short, ongoing bursts of learning that encourage learners to proceed at their own pace, all while being engaged in a collaborative environment.

## PROGRAM LOCATION

- Georgetown University, Washington, DC

## DIVISION OF MCH WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT (DMCHWD)

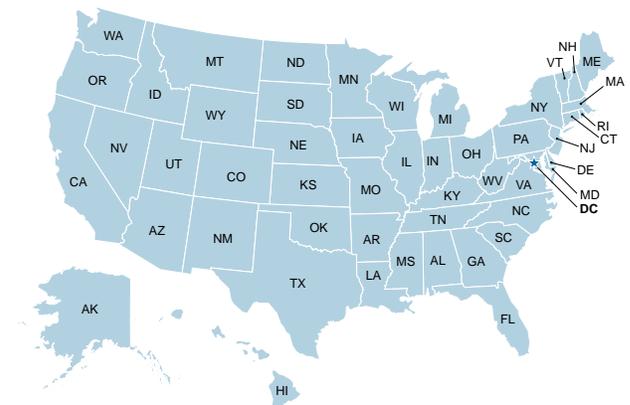
DMCHWD, part of HRSA's Maternal and Child Health Bureau, provides national leadership and direction in educating and training our nation's future leaders in maternal and child health (MCH).

Special emphasis is placed on the development and implementation of inter-professional, family-centered, community-based and culturally competent systems of care across the entire life course with experiences in one life stage shaping health in later stages.

DMCHWD supports programs established in federal legislation ([Title V of the Social Security Act](#) and the [Autism CARES Act](#)) to complement state and local health agency efforts. DMCHWD collaborates with state MCH programs, academic institutions, professional organizations, and other health training programs of the federal government to ensure that MCH initiatives are unique and based on evidence-based practices.

In FY 2016, DMCHWD awarded 161 grants, an investment of approximately \$47 million. Grants are awarded to develop trainees for leadership roles in the areas of:

- MCH teaching,
- Research,
- Clinical practice, and/or
- Public health administration and policy making.



Program Contact: Meredith Morrisette, (301) 443-6392, [MMorrisette@hrsa.gov](mailto:MMorrisette@hrsa.gov)

DMCHWD Training Website: <https://mchb.hrsa.gov/training>

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