

APPENDICES

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Appendix A

ACRONYMS

ACEs — Adverse Childhood Experiences

ACGR — Adjusted Cohort Graduation Rate

ACORNS — Addressing Crises through Outreach, Referrals, Networking, and Service

ACS — American Community Survey

ADA — American Diabetes Association

ADRD — Alzheimer’s Disease and Related Dementias

AHA — American Heart Association

AHEC — Area Health Education Centers

AHRQ — Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality

BMI — Body Mass Index

BRFSS — Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System

CAH — Critical Access Hospitals

CDC — Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

CHA — Community Health Assessment

CHD — Coronary Heart Disease

CHIP — Community Health Improvement Plan

CKD — Chronic Kidney Disease

CMHRP — Care Management for High-Risk Pregnancies

CMS — Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services

COPD — Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease

COVID-19 — Coronavirus Disease 2019

DPH — North Carolina Division of Public Health

DSS — Department of Social Services

EC — Exceptional Children

EMA — Emergency Management Agency

FEMA — Federal Emergency Management Agency

FFS — Fee-for-Service

FORHP — Federal Office of Rural Health Policy

FPHS — The Foundational Public Health Services Framework

FQHC — Federally Qualified Health Center

HIV — Human Immunodeficiency Virus

HNC 2030 — Healthy North Carolina 2030

HNC 2040 — Healthy North Carolina 2040

HOP — Healthy Opportunities Pilot

HPSA — Health Professional Shortage Area

HPV — Human Papillomavirus

HRRP — Hospital Readmissions Reduction Program

HRSA — Health Resources and Services Administration

HUD — U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

LHD — Local Health Department

MAPP 2.0 — Mobilizing for Action through Planning and Partnerships 2.0 framework

Mbps — Megabits per second

MCH — Maternal and Child Health

Medicaid — Joint federal and state public health insurance program for low-income individuals



- MIH** — Maternal and Infant Health
- MOUD** — Medications for Opioid Use Disorder
- NACCHO** — National Association of County and City Health Officials
- NC AHEC** — North Carolina Area Health Education Centers
- NCDHHS** — North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services
- NC MATTERS** — North Carolina Maternal Mental Health MATTERS Program
- NC SHIP** — North Carolina State Health Improvement Plan
- NCDMVA** — North Carolina Department of Military and Veterans Affairs
- NCDPS** — North Carolina Department of Public Safety
- NCI** — National Cancer Institute
- NCIOM** — North Carolina Institute of Medicine
- NCSBI** — North Carolina State Bureau of Investigation
- NCServes** — Coordinated network platform connecting veterans, service members, and families to resources in North Carolina
- NCWorks** — North Carolina Workforce Development System
- NGO** — Non-Governmental Organization
- NKF** — National Kidney Foundation
- NPI** — National Provider Identifier
- OCD** — Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder
- OSBM** — Office of State Budget and Management
- PACT Act** — Honoring Our Promise to Address Comprehensive Toxics Act
- PHAB** — Public Health Accreditation Board
- PIT** — Point-in-Time (Count)
- PMHC** — Perinatal Mental Health Condition
- PTSD** — Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder
- RBA** — Results-Based Accountability
- SAMHSA** — Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration
- SCHS** — North Carolina State Center for Health Statistics
- SHA** — State Health Assessment
- SIDS** — Sudden Infant Death Syndrome
- SMM** — Severe Maternal Morbidity
- SNAP** — Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program
- THC** — Tetrahydrocannabinol
- USDHHS** — U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
- USRDS** — United States Renal Data System
- VA** — U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
- V-START** — Veterans Strategic Analysis & Research Tool
- WIC** — Women, Infants, and Children Nutrition Program
- WISQARS** — Web-based Injury Statistics Query and Reporting System

Appendix B

Maternal/Infant Health Resources by Local Health Department Region

Note: The resources listed in this appendix were confirmed as functional as of October 2025. Many of the organizations represented are community-based and mission-driven, and their programs and online presence may evolve over time in response to funding cycles, community needs, and changing priorities. As a result, some links or services may change or become unavailable. Readers are encouraged to verify details directly with each organization.

Table 5. Region 1 Maternal/Infant Health Resources		
Organization	URL	Agency Type
Jackson County Department of Public Health – WIC	https://health.jacksonnc.org/breastfeeding	Governmental
Jackson County Department of Social Services	https://jcdss.org/services/medicaid/	Governmental
Mountain AHEC (MAHEC) – Project CARA	https://mahec.net/obgyn/project-cara	NGO
Lifespring Lactation & Doula Services	https://brandisaxon.wixsite.com/lifespringlactation	Other
Smart Start Region A – PFC	https://www.smartstart.org/smart-start-in-your-community/	NGO
Jackson County Transit	https://www.jacksonnc.org/transit	Governmental

Table 6. Region 2 Maternal/Infant Health Resources		
Organization	URL	Agency Type
Yancey County WIC	https://sites.google.com/view/yanceycountyhealthdepartment/departments/women-infants-children	Governmental
Yancey County Health Department – Maternal Health & Pregnancy Support	https://sites.google.com/view/yanceycountyhealthdepartment/departments/family-support-services	Governmental
Yancey County Department of Social Services	https://www.yanceycountydss.us/	Governmental
Yancey County Cooperative Extension – Parent Education	https://yancey.ces.ncsu.edu/parent-education-opportunities/	NGO
Circle of Parents – Yancey County	https://yancey.ces.ncsu.edu/parent-education-opportunities/circle-of-parents/	NGO
Blue Ridge Partnership for Children	https://blueridgechildren.org/	NGO
Yancey County Transportation Authority (YCTA)	https://yanceycountync.gov/181/Transportation-Authority	Governmental

**Table 7. Region 3 Maternal/Infant Health Resources**

Organization	URL	Agency Type
Forsyth County WIC	https://forsythcountync.gov/HHS/wic.aspx	Governmental
Forsyth County DSS	https://www.ncdhhs.gov/assistance/medicaid	Governmental
Forsyth County Health Department	https://forsyth.cc/HHS/pregnancy_care.aspx	Governmental
Smart Start of Forsyth County	https://smartstart-fc.org/	NGO
Bridges to Hope Family Justice Center	https://forsythcountync.gov/bridgestohope/supporting-b2h.aspx	Governmental
Birthright of Winston-Salem	https://birthrightws.com/	NGO
Planned Parenthood – Winston-Salem Health Center	https://www.plannedparenthood.org/health-center/north-carolina/winston-salem/27103/winston-salem-health-center-2845-90860	NGO
Novant Health Today’s Woman OB/GYN	https://www.novanthealth.org/locations/clinics/todays-woman-obgyn/	Other
Novant Health Forsyth Medical Center – Birth and Beginnings & Infant Classes	https://www.novanthealth.org/locations/medical-centers/forsyth-medical-center/services/maternity-services/	Other
Forsyth Connects – In-Home Postnatal Support	https://supportnovanthealth.org/forsyth-connects-help-mothers-across-county/	NGO
Imprints Cares – Parenting Programs	https://www.imprintscares.org/programs	NGO
Parenting PATH – Welcome Baby Home Visiting	https://parentingpath.org/what-we-do/welcome-baby.html	NGO
Parenting PATH – Fathers Are Parents Too	https://parentingpath.org/what-we-do/fathers.html	NGO
Catholic Charities – Hand to Hand Program	https://ccdoc.org/children-youth	NGO
Family Services of Forsyth County – Counseling & Child Development Services	https://familyservicesforsyth.org/	Governmental
Florence Crittenton Services – Maternity & Teen Mom Programs	https://crittentonofnc.org/	NGO
Room at the Inn	https://www.roominn.org/	Faith-based
La Leche League NC	https://www.llofnc.org/localgroups/	NGO
Child Care Resource Center (formerly Work Family Resource Center)	https://childcareresourcecenter.org/	NGO
Winston-Salem Transit Authority (WSTA) – Paratransit (Trans-AID)	https://www.cityofws.org/765/Transportation	Governmental

Table 8. Region 4 Maternal/Infant Health Resources

Organization	URL	Agency Type
Union County WIC Program	https://www.unioncountync.gov/government/departments-a-e/community-support-outreach/women-infants-children-wic	Governmental
Union County Parenting Support Program	https://www.unioncountync.gov/government/departments-a-e/community-support-outreach/parenting-support	Governmental
Union County Health Department	https://www.unioncountync.gov/government/departments-f-p/public-health/community-service-programs/early-childhood-care-management	Governmental
Union County Department of Social Services	https://www.ncdhhs.gov/divisions/social-services/union-county-department-social-services	Governmental
The Arc of Union/Cabarrus	https://thearcisthere.org/	NGO
Alliance for Children	https://theallianceforchildren.org/	NGO
Union County Transportation Services	https://www.unioncountync.gov/government/departments-r-z/transportation	Governmental

Table 9. Region 5 Maternal/Infant Health Resources

Organization	URL	Agency Type
Caswell County WIC	https://www.caswellnc.us/wic/	Governmental
Caswell County Department of Social Services	https://www.socialservicesdepartment.com/office/caswell-county_dss_27379	Governmental
Caswell County Smart Start	https://www.caswellchildren.org/	Governmental
Caswell County Health Department	https://www.caswellnc.us/	Governmental
Caswell County Partnership for Children	https://www.caswellchildren.org/	NGO
Caswell County Area Transportation System (CATS)	https://www.caswellcountync.gov/cats-transportation	Governmental

**Table 10. Region 6 Maternal/Infant Health Resources**

Organization	URL	Agency Type
Scotland County WIC Office	https://www.scotlandcounty.org/167/Women-Infants-Children-WIC-Program	Governmental
Scotland County Health Dept – Maternal Health & Pregnancy Case Management	https://www.scotlandcounty.org/162/Maternal-Health	Governmental
Scotland County DSS – Medicaid for Pregnant Women	https://www.scotlandcounty.org/269/Pregnant-Women	Governmental
Vita Choices Pregnancy Center	https://vitachoiceSprc.com/free-services	Faith-Based
Baby Shower Events – Carolina Complete Health	https://www.carolinacompletehealth.com/members/medicaid/resources/benefits-services/start-smart-for-your-baby/baby-showers.html	NGO
Scotland County Partnership for Children and Families	https://www.facebook.com/scotlandss/ (website under construction)	NGO
Scotland County Area Transit System (SCATS)	https://www.scotlandcounty.org/470/Trip-Scheduling	Governmental

Table 11. Region 7 Maternal/Infant Health Resources

Organization	URL	Agency Type
Wake County WIC Office	https://www.wake.gov/departments-government/health-human-services/programs-assistance/wic-program	Governmental
Wake County Maternal and Child Health Services	https://www.wake.gov/departments-government/health-human-services/public-health-and-medical-services/maternal-and-child-health	Governmental
Wake County Health & Human Services – Medicaid & Public Health Programs	https://www.wake.gov/departments-government/health-human-services	Governmental
Wake County Family Support Services	https://www.wake.gov/departments-government/health-human-services/children-and-family-services/child-welfare-prevention-and-support-services/family-support-services	Governmental
North Regional Center Breastfeeding Support Group	https://www.wake.gov/departments-government/health-human-services/health-human-services-locations/northern-regional-center/nrc-breastfeeding-support-group	Governmental
WakeMed Lactation Support Groups	https://www.wakemed.org/care-and-services/womens/pregnancy-and-childbirth/support-for-new-parents/breastfeeding-support-group	Governmental
Triangle Area Parenting Support (TAPS) – Breastfeeding	https://www.tapsnc.org/breastfeeding	NGO
East Raleigh Doula Collective	https://www.eastraleighdoula.com/	NGO
Doulas of Raleigh	https://www.doulasofraleigh.com/	NGO
Triangle Doulas of Color	https://www.triangledoulasofcolor.com/	NGO
New Creation Birth and Family Services	https://newcreationbirthservices.com/	NGO
WakeMed Supportive Birth Services	https://www.wakemed.org/care-and-services/womens/pregnancy-and-childbirth/pregnancy-and-childbirth-resources/supportive-birth-services	Governmental
Catholic Parish Outreach Food Pantry	https://www.catholiccharitiesraleigh.org/programs/catholic-parish-outreach-food-pantry/	Faith-Based
Western Wake Pediatrics	https://www.westernwakepediatrics.com/	Other
Jeffers, Mann and Artman Pediatrics	https://www.jeffersandmann.com/	Other
Triangle Lactation Consultants – Ann Conlon-Smith	https://trianglelactation.com/	Other
Carolina Lactation Consultants	https://carolinallactationconsultants.com/	Other



Organization	URL	Agency Type
Four Sisters' Hands	https://www.foursistershands.com/	Other
Milestones Pediatric & Maternal Nutrition	https://www.milestonesnutrition.com/	Other
Jordan Smith Lactation	https://jordansmithlactation.com/	Other
Relatable Lactation LLC – Sophia Taylor	https://www.relatable-lactation.com/	Other
Wake County Public Libraries – Parenting Resources	https://www.wake.gov/departments-government/libraries	Governmental
Best Baby Wake	https://www.wake.gov/departments-government/health-human-services/public-health-and-medical-services/maternal-and-child-health/best-baby-wake	Governmental
Wake County Smart Start – Supporting Families	https://www.wakesmartstart.org/families/supporting-families/	NGO
Hand of Hope Pregnancy Centers – Raleigh & Fuquay-Varina	https://www.handofhope.net/	NGO
iChoose Pregnancy Support Services – Knightdale	https://www.ichoose.me/appointments/schedule-now	NGO
Salvation Army Women & Children Shelter	https://www.salvationarmycarolinas.org/wakecounty/	Faith-Based
Triangle Family Services – Housing & Shelter	https://www.tfsnc.org/housing/	NGO
OAK City Cares – Homeless Outreach	https://raleighnc.gov/housing/services/resources-housing-crises-and-homelessness	Governmental
Wake County Continuum of Care	https://www.wake.gov/departments-government/wake-county-continuum-care	Governmental
Catholic Charities – Raleigh	https://www.catholiccharitiesraleigh.org/get-help/	Faith-Based
SAFEchild (Stop Abuse for Every Child)	https://safechildnc.org/	NGO
GoWake Access Transportation	https://www.wake.gov/departments-government/health-human-services/programs-assistance/gowake-access-transportation	Governmental
GoRaleigh Public Transit	https://raleighnc.gov/transportation/service-unit/public-transportation	Governmental
GoTriangle Regional Transit	https://gotriangle.org/waketransit	Governmental
GoCary Transit	https://gocary.org/	Governmental

Table 12. Region 8 Maternal/Infant Health Resources		
Organization	URL	Agency Type
Onslow County WIC Program	https://www.onslowcountync.gov/216/WIC	Governmental
Onslow County Health Dept - New & Expecting Patients	https://www.onslowcountync.gov/2257/New-Expecting-Moms	Governmental
Onslow County Health Dept – Newborn & Maternal Postpartum Home Visit	https://www.onslowcountync.gov/284/Newborn-and-Maternal-Postpartum-Home-Vis	Governmental
Onslow County DSS – Medicaid & Economic Services	https://www.onslowcountync.gov/353/Medicaid-Programs	Governmental
PEERS Family Development Center	https://www.peersfamilydevelopmentcenter.com/	NGO
Bosom Babies Lactation (Carolina Coast Location)	https://carolinacoastlactation.com/	Private
La Leche League of Jacksonville & Camp Lejeune	https://lalecheofjaxnc.weebly.com	NGO
Onslow Pregnancy Resource Center (Hope First)	https://hopefirst.org/	Faith-Based
One Place – Early Head Start	https://www.oneplaceonslow.org/blog/early-head-start-pregnant-women-and-expectant-family-services/	NGO
Onslow Memorial Hospital – Maternity Services	https://www.onslow.org/services/maternity	NGO
Bella Donna Midwifery--Birth & Women's Health	https://www.belladonnamidwifery.com/services-9	Private
Military Birth Resource Network	https://www.mbrnpc.org/	NGO
Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society	https://www.nmcrcs.org/our-services/visiting-nurses	NGO
Naval Medical Center Camp Lejeune	https://camp-lejeune.tricare.mil/Health-Services/Womens-Health-Pregnancy	NGO
Onslow United Transit System (OUTS)	https://www.onslowunitedtransit.org/	NGO
Windows Womb	https://www.wombswindow.com	Private

**Table 13. Region 9 Maternal/Infant Health Resources**

Organization	URL	Agency Type
Halifax County Health Dept. WIC	https://www.halifaxnc.com/335/Women-Infants-Children-WIC	Governmental
Halifax County Health Dept. Clinic Services	https://www.halifaxnc.com/186/Clinic-Services	Governmental
Halifax County DSS – Medicaid & Social Services	https://www.halifaxnc.com/170/Department-of-Social-Services	Governmental
Triple P – Positive Parenting Program	https://www.halifaxnc.com/338/Triple-P	NGO/Governmental
Pregnancy Support Center of Roanoke Rapids	https://www.pregnancysupportcenterofrr.com/about-us.html	NGO
Nurse-Family Partnership (Halifax Community College)	https://halifaxcc.edu/community/nurse-family-partnership/	NGO
Rural Health Group (FQHC)	https://connector.hrsa.gov/connector/site-profile/C90FCA53-A554-42F5-A1ED-427A7F36FEB7	NGO
Catholic Charities Tar River Region	https://www.catholiccharitiesraleigh.org/?s=halifax+county	Faith-based/NGO
Choanoke Public Transportation Authority (CPTA)	https://choanokepta.org/	Governmental

Table 14. Region 10 Maternal/Infant Health Resources

Organization	URL	Agency Type
Wayne County Health Dept - WIC	https://www.waynegov.com/282/Women-Infants-Children-Program-WIC	Governmental
Wayne County - Medicaid Office	https://www.waynegov.com/964/Family-Childrens-Medicaid	Governmental
Wayne County Public Health	https://www.waynegov.com/2192/Maternal-And-Infant-Health	Governmental
Wayne Pregnancy Center	https://waynepregnancycenter.com/	NGO (faith-affiliated)
Partnership for Children of Wayne County (Smart Start/NC Pre-K)	https://pfcw.org/	NGO
Goldsboro-Wayne Transportation Authority (GWTA)	https://ridegwta.com/van-services/	Governmental

Appendix C

Key Informant Interview Instructions

Before the Interview

/ 01 Send the Email Invitation

- Use the draft email provided at the end of this appendix (modify as needed).
- Update the tracking spreadsheet:
 - In the Status column, select **“email sent.”**

/ 02 Schedule the Interview

- Plan for a 30-minute interview.
- If multiple participants will attend, schedule 45 minutes.
- Interviews may be conducted via Zoom or Microsoft Teams.
- Update the tracking spreadsheet:
 1. Enter the scheduled interview date and select **“interview scheduled”** in the Status column.
 2. Enter the name and email of the person who will validate the resource guide (if different from the interviewee).

/ 03 Select the Appropriate Interview Guide

There are three versions of the interview guide:

- **Social Worker Guide** – focuses on non-clinical, social factors.
- **Clinical Staff Guide** – focuses on clinical care.
- **Assuring Counties Guide** – includes questions about assurance arrangements.

Note: The guides are similar; choose the one that best fits the interviewee’s role.

During the Interview

/ 01 Begin with the Introduction Script

- Thank the participant for their time.
- Explain the purpose of the study and note that findings will inform the State Health Assessment.
- Indicate the interview duration (typically 30 minutes).
- Request permission to record, emphasizing that recordings are used only for analysis and that neither individuals nor counties will be identified.

/ 02 Recording Procedures

- Start recording **only after** the participant provides consent.
- Stop the recording immediately after the interview ends.
- If the participant declines recording, take detailed notes.

/ 03 Follow the Interview Guide

- You do not need to ask questions in order.
- If the participant covers a topic early, acknowledge it and ask if they wish to add anything.
- Questions labeled **“if time”** should be asked last and may be skipped if time is limited.

/ 04 Use Follow-Up Questions

Use prompts to clarify, deepen, or expand responses:

To check for completeness

- “Are there any other challenges you’ve noticed?”
- “Besides what you mentioned, are there other factors that stand out?”

To clarify or deepen

- “Can you say more about what you mean by that?”
- “Could you give an example of how that plays out?”



To explore causes

- “Why do you think that happened?”
- “What do you think contributed to that?”

To explore consequences

- “What do you think the impact has been on maternal health?”
- “How has this affected the way services are delivered?”

/ 05 Monitor Time

- Keep track of remaining time throughout the interview.
- Prioritize essential questions if time runs short.
- At approximately 25 minutes, you may say:
- “We have about 5 minutes left—are you able to stay on a little longer, or should we begin wrapping up?”

After the Interview

/ 01 Conclude the Conversation

- Thank the participant for their time and insights.

/ 02 Save the Recording

- Save the audio file and notes to the shared drive the same day.
- Use the following naming format:
County_Interviewer_Date

/ 03 Update the Tracking Spreadsheet

- In the Status column, select “interview completed.”

/ 04 Send a Thank-You Email

- Email the respondent to thank them for participating.

Draft Email Invitation

✉
New Message
— ↗ ×

To: cc : bcc :

Subject: Request for Interview – Maternal Health Study

Dear [Name],

I am a consultant working with the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services on a study to better understand the factors affecting maternal health in North Carolina. Findings from this project will help inform the State Health Improvement Plan and the upcoming State Health Assessment.

We would like to invite you to participate in a 30-minute interview about maternal and infant health in your county. We hope to complete all interviews by September 10, and we can meet via Zoom or Teams. Could you please reply with 2–3 times that work for you within that timeframe? [Name of referrer] recommended you as someone with valuable insights to share.

During the interview, we will ask about community and environmental factors, barriers to care, departmental capacity and strengths, behavioral health and social needs, and any changes or disparities you have observed over time.

We recognize this is a busy time and sincerely appreciate your assistance. Thank you for considering this request, and I look forward to your reply.

Best regards,
[Your Name]

Appendix D

Key Informant Interview Guide

The following guides were used to conduct interviews with local health department (LHD) personnel as part of the 2025 North Carolina State Health Assessment. Each guide is tailored to the interviewee's role and includes a standard introductory script, core questions, optional "if time" questions, and probes to support deeper discussion.

Care Manager / Social Work Supervisor

Introductory Script

Thank you for meeting with me today. The purpose of this conversation is to better understand what is helping and challenging maternal health in your county. We are interested in hearing your perspectives on what is working well, where the biggest needs are, and how things may be changing over time.

This conversation should take about 30 minutes. I will be taking notes and, if it is okay with you, I would like to record our discussion so I do not miss any details. The recording will be used only for data analysis, and neither you nor your county will be identified in any report.

Would you be comfortable with me recording this conversation?

Introduction

- Q Please tell me a little about your role and how long you have been in this position.

Probe: From your viewpoint, what does your role as a care manager involve when supporting pregnant or postpartum individuals?

- Q Can you tell me a little about your county and the factors that most shape public health work there?

Community and Environmental Factors

- Q What community or environmental factors most affect maternal and infant health in your region?
- Q On the positive side, what factors in your community help support healthy pregnancies and healthy babies?
- Q Have any of these factors — either challenges or strengths — changed in recent years? If so, how?

Local Health Department Capacity

- Q What are your health department's main challenges in meeting the needs of pregnant and postpartum women?

Probe: Can you share examples of strategies or approaches that have worked well to address these challenges?
- Q What strengths does your health department bring to supporting maternal and infant health?
- Q Have any of these factors — either challenges or strengths — changed in recent years? If so, how?



Access to Maternal Health Care (if time)

- Q** What barriers do your clients face in accessing prenatal or postpartum care?
- Q** Have there been any policy changes in the past few years that have influenced maternal health services or access to care?

Probe: Have you noticed any changes since Medicaid expansion?

Behavioral Health and Social Needs (if time)

- Q** What kinds of behavioral health or social needs do you most often see?
- Q** How do you help connect clients with appropriate support? How adequate is the support that is available?

Disparities (if time)

- Q** Are there some sub-groups in your community that confront more challenges related to maternal health than others?
- Q** What factors seem to drive those differences?

Wrap-Up

- Q** If you could make one or two recommendations — whether related to programs, policies, or resources — what would make the biggest difference in improving maternal health in your county?
- Q** Is there anything we have not discussed that you think is important for us to know about maternal health in your county?

Clinical Staff

Introductory Script

(Use the same script as page 239)

Introduction

- Q** Please tell me a little about your role and how long you have been in this position.

Probe: From your viewpoint, what does your role as a maternity care coordinator involve when supporting pregnant or postpartum individuals?

- Q** Can you tell me a little about your county and the factors that most shape public health work there?

Access to Maternal Health Care

- Q** What barriers do your clients face in accessing prenatal or postpartum care?
- Q** Have there been any changes in the past few years that have influenced maternal health services or access to care?

Probe: Have you noticed any changes since Medicaid expansion? Have other policy changes affected access?

Local Health Department Capacity

- Q** What are the main challenges your health department faces in meeting the needs of pregnant and postpartum women?

Probe: Can you share examples of strategies or approaches that have worked well?

- Q** What strengths does your health department bring to supporting maternal and infant health?
- Q** Have any of these factors — either challenges or strengths — changed in recent years? If so, how?

Community and Environmental Factors (if time)

- Q** What community or environmental factors most affect maternal and infant health?
- Q** On the positive side, what factors in your communities help support healthy pregnancies and healthy babies?
- Q** Have any of these factors — either challenges or strengths — changed in recent years? If so, how?

Behavioral Health and Social Needs (if time)

- Q** What kinds of behavioral health or social needs do you most often see?
- Q** How do you help connect clients with appropriate support? How adequate is the support that is available?

Disparities (if time)

- Q** Are there sub-groups in your community that confront more challenges related to maternal health than others?
- Q** What factors seem to drive those differences?

Wrap-Up

- Q** If you could make one or two recommendations — programs, policies, or resources — what would make the biggest difference in improving maternal health in your region?
- Q** Is there anything we have not discussed that you think is important for us to know about maternal health in your county?

Assuring Counties

Introductory Script

(Use the same script as page 239)

Introduction

- Q** Please tell me a little about your role and how long you have been in this position.

Probe: From your viewpoint, what does your role as a maternity care coordinator involve?

- Q** Can you tell me a little about your county and the factors that most shape public health work there?

- Q** I understand that your county provides access to maternal health care through an assuring arrangement. Could you explain how that process works in your county?

Probe: What impact do you think assuring has on maternal health outcomes?

Access to Maternal Health Care

- Q** What barriers do your clients face in accessing prenatal or postpartum care?
- Q** Have there been any changes in the past few years that have influenced maternal health services or access to care?

Probe: Have you noticed any changes since Medicaid expansion? Have other policy changes affected access?



Local Health Department Capacity

- Q** What challenges affect your ability to provide or assure maternal health services?

Probe: How do staffing, funding, and partnerships influence your ability to address maternal health needs?

- Q** How has your department's ability to serve pregnant and postpartum people changed over time?
- Q** What strengths does your health department have in addressing maternal health?

System and Policy Factors

- Q** Have there been any policy changes that have influenced maternal health services or access to care?

Probe: Have you noticed any changes since Medicaid expansion?

- Q** Are there system-level or policy-level factors that have significantly shaped maternal health in your area?

Community and Environmental Factors (if time)

- Q** What community or environmental factors most affect maternal and infant health?
- Q** On the positive side, what factors in your community help support healthy pregnancies and healthy babies?
- Q** Have any of these factors — either challenges or strengths — changed in recent years? If so, how?

Behavioral Health and Social Needs (if time)

- Q** What kinds of behavioral health or social needs do you most often see?
- Q** How do you help connect clients with appropriate support? How adequate is the support that is available?

Disparities (if time)

- Q** Are there sub-populations that face more challenges related to maternal health than others?
- Q** What factors seem to drive those differences?

Wrap-Up

- Q** If you could make one or two recommendations — programs, policies, or resources — what would make the biggest difference in improving maternal health in your region?
- Q** Is there anything we have not discussed that you think is important for us to know about maternal health in your county?

Appendix E

Social Listening: Military/Veteran Sources

Date	Article	Source	Link
2/18/25	As US, NC homelessness numbers rise, officials and nonprofits make headway in helping veterans	NC Newslines	https://ncnewslines.com/2025/02/18/as-us-nc-homelessness-numbers-rise-officials-and-nonprofits-make-headway-in-helping-veterans/
11/13/24	New community for homeless veterans under construction in High Point	WXII	https://www.wxii12.com/article/community-homeless-veterans-construction-high-point/62898907
12/7/24	Police officer, ACORNS program help homeless veterans across Raleigh	ABC11	https://abc11.com/post/police-officer-wr-jackson-acorns-program-help-homeless-veterans-raleigh-north-carolina/15626639/
9/25/25	Beyond the battlefield: Nonprofit Off-Road Outreach makes a difference in the lives of homeless Veterans through support, service and compassion	Greater Fayetteville Business Journal	https://bizfayetteville.com/military-business/2024/8/29/beyond-the-battlefield-nonprofit-off-road-outreach-makes-a-difference-in-the-lives-of-homeless-veterans-through-support-service-and-compassion/3385
3/14/25	Charlotte's innovative plan to house every homeless veteran	PBS	https://www.pbs.org/video/charlottes-innovative-plan-to-house-every-homeless-veteran-50gl8k/
2/28/24	More than 700 veterans estimated to be homeless in NC	The Daily News	https://www.jdnews.com/news/local/more-than-700-veterans-estimated-homeless-in-north-carolina/article_747f0075-51a3-574c-96ad-18574314b44f.html

Date	Article	Source	Link
2/26/25	Federal employee terminations hit Durham, Fayetteville VA health care systems	ABC11	https://abc11.com/post/va-cuts-nc-durham-fayetteville-veterans-affairs-employees-terminated-trump-elon-musk-us-reps-respond/15957557/
3/19/25	Concerns rise among Asheville veterans over potential job cuts at VA hospital	WLOS13	
3/19/25	VA Secretary Doug Collins in Asheville addresses federal job cuts, protestors	Asheville Citizen Times	https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/local/2025/03/19/va-secretary-in-asheville-job-cuts-wont-affect-benefits-and-care/82487879007/
3/3/25	Triad veteran devastated after he was cut in latest round at the VA; 'A lot of shock'	Fox 8	https://myfox8.com/news/north-carolina/piedmont-triad/triad-veteran-devastated-after-he-was-cut-in-latest-round-at-the-va-a-lot-of-shock/
3/14/25	How many Fayetteville Veterans Affairs jobs have been cut?	The Fayetteville Observer	https://www.fayobserver.com/story/news/military/2025/03/14/will-va-job-cuts-impact-fayetteville-nc/81766149007/

**Table 17. Environmental Health Concerns**

Date	Article	Source	Link
10/3/24	Damage from Helene devastating for some veterans	NC Health News	https://www.northcarolinahealthnews.org/2024/10/03/helene-devastating-for-some-veterans/
12/2/24	DEMPS volunteers answer the call to help in hurricane-ravaged North Carolina	VA News	https://www.va.gov/milwaukee-health-care/stories/demps-volunteers-answer-the-call-to-help-in-hurricane-ravaged-north-carolina/
10/8/24	Veterans Affairs, nonprofit get outreach services going for Asheville veterans	Citizen Times	https://www.citizen-times.com/story/news/local/2024/10/08/va-nonprofit-continue-outreach-efforts-to-asheville-veterans/75553619007/
5/28/24	Pact Act expansion of approved claims to impact NC veterans	WITN7	https://www.witn.com/2024/05/28/pact-act-expansion-approved-claims-impact-north-carolina-veterans/
3/5/24	Veterans exposed to burn pits, toxins no longer have to wait to apply for health benefits	ABC11	https://abc11.com/nc-veterans-burn-pits-toxins-military-pact-act-health-benefits/14493969/
8/9/24	More than 1 million veterans receiving benefits via PACT Act ahead of anniversary	NC Newsline	https://ncnewsline.com/2024/08/09/more-than-1-million-veterans-receiving-benefits-via-pact-act-ahead-of-anniversary/
3/6/24	VA expands access to health care under PACT Act to millions of veterans	News 17	https://www.cbs17.com/news/north-carolina-news/va-expands-access-to-health-care-under-pact-act-to-millions-of-veterans/

Table 18. Workforce Development

Date	Article	Source	Link
2/5/25	Governor Josh Stein Holds Workforce Development Roundtable Focusing on North Carolina Veterans	Office of the Governor	https://governor.nc.gov/news/press-releases/2025/02/05/governor-josh-stein-holds-workforce-development-roundtable-focusing-north-carolina-veterans
2/5/25	Gov. Josh Stein visits Wilmington, talks improving veteran workforce at NCWorks	WECT	https://www.wect.com/2025/02/05/gov-josh-stein-visits-wilmington-talks-improving-veteran-workforce-ncworks/
3/7/25	Trump's federal workforce cuts jeopardize the careers of nearly 900,000 veterans and veteran or military spouses	Economic Policy Institute	https://www.epi.org/blog/trumps-federal-workforce-cuts-jeopardize-the-careers-of-nearly-900000-veterans-and-veteran-or-military-spouses/

Table 19. Active Duty Housing

Date	Article	Source	Link
4/27/22	Health risks for families in military private housing probed by U.S. Senate panel	NC Newsline	https://ncnewsline.com/2022/04/27/health-risks-for-families-in-military-private-housing-probed-by-u-s-senate-panel/
2/27/25	Senators call for military housing price-gouging investigation in cities including Wilmington	Port City Daily	https://portcitydaily.com/latest-news/2025/02/27/senators-call-for-military-housing-price-gouging-investigation-in-cities-including-wilmington/
12/19/24	Homes at Fort Liberty to get renovations after years of families complaints about living conditions	ABC11	https://abc11.com/post/fort-liberty-housing-issues-addressed-after-years-complaints-settlement-covvias/15678033/

Appendix F

Social Listening: Hispanic/Latine Sources

Date	Article	Source	Link
7/14/24	More than 45 thousand Latinos enrolled in Medicaid in North Carolina	Enlace Latino	https://enlacinonc.org/en/more-than-45-thousand-Latinos-enrolled-in-Medicaid-in-North-Carolina/
4/5/24	Five North Carolina counties account for 37% of Latinos enrolled in Medicaid	Enlace Latino	https://enlacinonc.org/en/Latinos-enrolled-in-Medicare-North-Carolina/
12/1/23	Medicaid expansion in North Carolina: impact on the Latino community and rural areas	Enlace Latino	https://enlacinonc.org/en/Medicaid-expansion-in-North-Carolina-impact-on-the-Latino-community-and-rural-areas/
12/14/23	Navigators make it easier for the Latino community to enroll in Medicaid	Enlace Latino	https://enlacinonc.org/en/Navigators-make-it-easier-for-the-Latino-community-to-register-for-Medicaid/
12/21/23	Young Latinos: those who benefit most from Medicaid expansion in North Carolina	Enlace Latino	https://enlacinonc.org/en/expansion-of-medicaid-young-latinos/
8/14/24	Undocumented and Undiagnosed: The Fight to Ease A Health Crisis Among North Carolina’s Farmworkers	Enlace Latino	https://enlacinonc.org/en/the-fight-to-ease-a-health-crisis-among-north-carolinas-farmworkers/
6/10/24	Even when insured, NC’s Latino residents are less likely to receive health care	NC Newsline	https://ncnewsline.com/briefs/even-when-insured-ncs-latino-residents-are-less-likely-to-receive-healthcare/
8/5/24	Report: NC’s growing Latino population needs better access to health care	WHQR	https://www.whqr.org/local/2024-08-05/report-ncs-growing-latino-population-needs-better-access-to-health-care
4/18/24	Health care works better for North Carolina’s white residents than for everyone else	NC Newsline	https://ncnewsline.com/2024/04/18/health-care-works-better-for-north-carolinas-white-residents-than-for-everyone-else/
9/19/24	ICE cooperation bill could have impact on immigrant health	WUNC	https://www.wunc.org/2024-09-19/ice-sheriff-cooperation-bill-immigrant-health
12/3/24	Coastal Horizons expanding mental health program for Hispanic and Latinx community	WECT	https://www.wect.com/2024/12/03/coastal-horizons-expanding-mental-health-program-hispanic-latinx-community/
4/22/24	Recently published study looks at health care and race, including in North Carolina	WHQR	https://www.whqr.org/local/2024-04-22/recently-published-study-looks-at-healthcare-and-race-including-in-north-carolina
7/25/22	A new clinic to meet WNC Latinos’ medical, mental and social health needs	NC Health News	https://www.northcarolinahealthnews.org/2022/07/25/new-vecinos-clinic-to-meet-wnc-latinos-needs/
9/19/24	El Futuro provides culturally informed mental health care to the Hispanic community	Healthcare Brew	https://www.healthcare-brew.com/stories/2024/09/19/el-futuro-culturally-informed-mental-health-care-hispanic-community
9/18/24	Hispanic and Latin American Heritage Month: Triangle organizations help to support the community	ABC11	https://abc11.com/post/hispanic-latin-american-heritage-month-triangle-organizations-el-centro-hispano-futuro-support-community/15321135/
2/23/22	Increase in Cumberland County’s Latino population creates public health care challenges	The Fayetteville Observer	

**Table 21. Covid-19**

Date	Article	Source	Link
11/1/21	North Carolina's Latino residents are more vaccinated than the non-Hispanic population	NC Health News	https://www.northcarolinahealthnews.org/2021/11/01/north-carolinas-latino-residents-are-more-vaccinated-than-the-non-hispanic-population/
9/8/20	North Carolina Department of Agriculture says asymptomatic Farmworkers exposed to COVID-19 must continue working	Enlace Latino	https://enlacinonc.org/en/north-carolina-department-of-agriculture-says-asymptomatic-farmworkers-exposed-to-covid-19-must-continue-working/
8/3/20	How Latinos In North Carolina Are Disproportionately Affected By COVID-19	WFAE	https://www.wfae.org/local-news/2020-08-03/how-latinos-in-north-carolina-are-disproportionately-affected-by-covid-19
5/14/20	Durham city leaders respond to uptick in COVID-19 cases in Hispanic community	WRAL	https://www.wral.com/durham-city-leaders-reapond-to-uptick-in-covid-19-cases-in-hispanic-community/19097533/
5/29/20	Latinos, the coronavirus and a single ZIP code	NC Health News	https://www.northcarolinahealthnews.org/2020/05/29/latinos-coronavirus-and-a-single-zip-code/
6/19/20	The first child to die of COVID-19 in NC illustrates spread through Latino communities	The News and Observer	https://www.newsobserver.com/news/local/article243591547.html
8/4/22	Trusted community messengers, data key in North Carolina's journey to vaccine equity	NC Health News	https://www.northcarolinahealthnews.org/2022/08/04/trusted-community-messengers-data-key-in-north-carolinas-journey-to-vaccine-equity/
5/3/20	North Carolina Poultry Plant Workers Say Butterball Isn't Protecting Them from COVID-19	Civil Eats	https://civileats.com/2020/05/03/north-carolina-poultry-plant-workers-say-butterball-isnt-protecting-them-from-covid-19/
5/21/20	After worker's death, employees at Pilgrim's Pride plant in NC to get coronavirus test	The News and Observer	https://www.newsobserver.com/news/coronavirus/article242898471.html

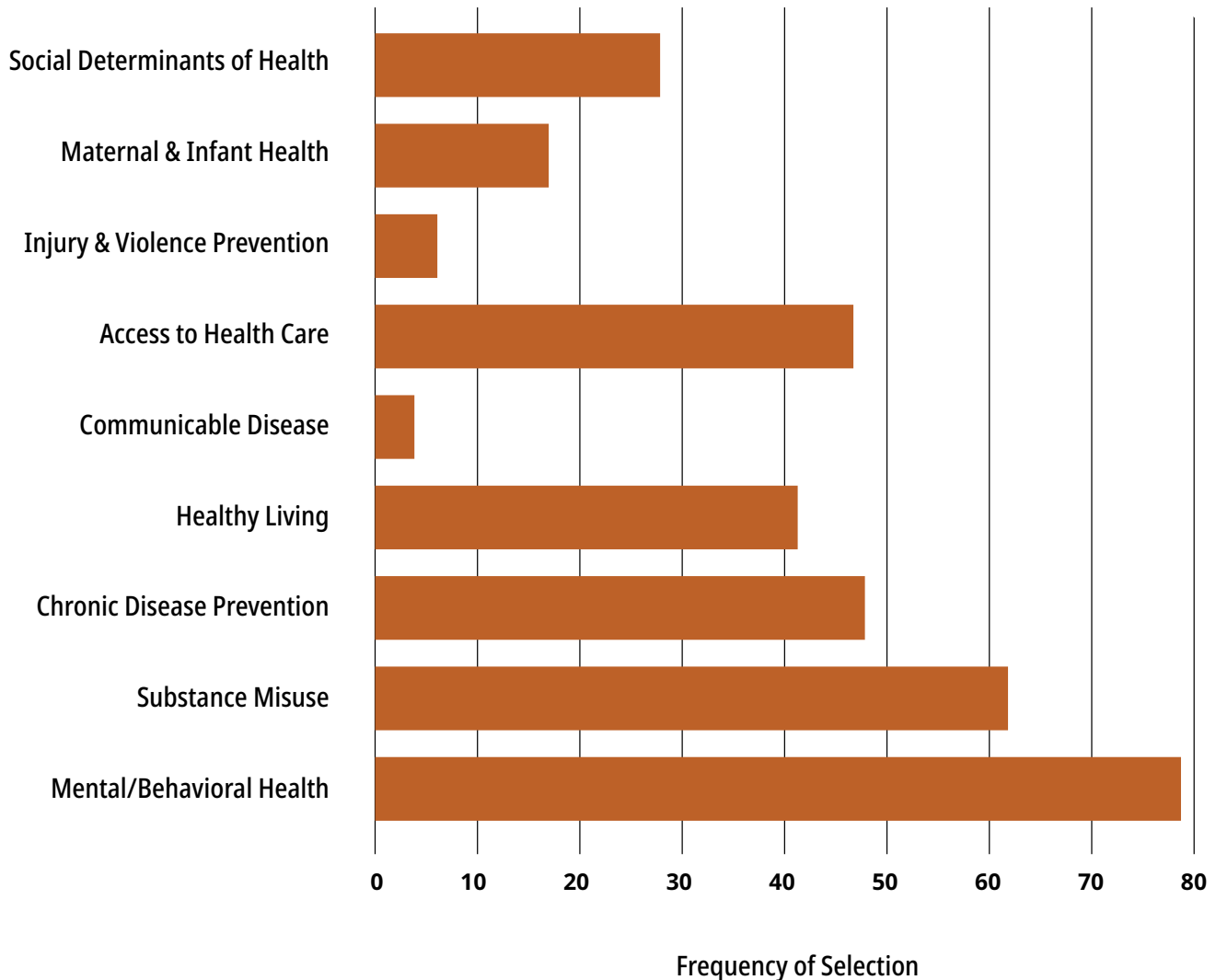
Table 22. Environmental Health Concerns

Date	Article	Source	Link
7/23/24	Farmworker's death sparks investigation from the North Carolina Department of Labor	Enlace Latino	https://enlacinon.org/en/farmworkers-death-sparks-investigation-from-the-north-carolina-department-of-labor/
7/24/24	Flor Herrera-Picasso: How North Carolina fails its farmworkers	Enlace Latino	https://enlacinon.org/en/flor-herrera-picasso-how-north-carolina-fails-its-farmworkers/
11/17/22	Study finds Latino workers die of occupational injuries at higher rates than other groups	NC Health News	https://www.northcarolinahealthnews.org/2022/11/17/study-finds-latino-workers-die-of-occupational-injuries-at-higher-rates-than-other-groups/
2/9/25	We can see factory farm pollution all the way from space	Vox	https://www.vox.com/future-perfect/398131/factory-farm-air-pollution-space-north-carolina
8/30/21	Mountaire Farms workers in Lumber Bridge allege chemicals are making them sick	NC Health News	https://www.northcarolinahealthnews.org/2021/08/30/mountaire-farms-workers-in-lumber-bridge-allege-chemicals-are-making-them-sick/
10/3/24	Aid Is Slow to Reach Some Latino Areas in Storm-Hit North Carolina	NY Times	https://www.nytimes.com/2024/10/03/us/helene-north-carolina-latino-swannanoa.html
12/10/24	'Community helping community': Latino groups in Western NC fill gaps in Helene recovery	The News and Observer	https://www.newsobserver.com/news/state/north-carolina/article296310934.html
3/14/25	"Photos from Helene": the project that seeks to return photos lost in the hurricane to their owners	Enlace Latino	https://enlacinon.org/en/Photos-from-Helene%3A-The-project-that-seeks-to-return-photos-lost-in-the-hurricane-to-their-owners./
12/3/24	Western NC Latino community forms makeshift delivery service after Helene	The Charlotte Observer	https://www.charlotteobserver.com/news/state/north-carolina/article293573319.html
10/11/24	Language can be a barrier in seeking disaster aid. These volunteers are helping Latinos in NC get help	WUNC	https://www.wunc.org/race-class-communities/2024-10-11/fema-federal-aid-language-spanish-immigrant-helene
10/17/24	Latino workers on the front lines of Hurricane Helene cleanup and reconstruction	Enlace Latino	https://enlacinon.org/en/Latino-workers-on-the-front-lines-of-cleanup-and-reconstruction-after-Hurricane-Helene/
11/7/24	Asheville reporter covers Helene's impact in Spanish for Latino communities	NPR	https://www.npr.org/2024/11/07/nx-s1-5171072/asheville-reporter-covers-helene-impact-in-spanish-for-latino-communities
9/29/24	"We are devastated," Latinos describe the devastation in western North Carolina	Enlace Latino	https://enlacinon.org/en/Latinos-devastation-western-North-Carolina-hurricane-Helene/
11/27/24	Latino businesses struggle to stay afloat after Helene	Enlace Latino	https://enlacinon.org/en/helene-latin-businesses-struggle-to-stay-afloat/
10/4/24	Latino organizations mobilize to bring aid to the affected community in Asheville	Enlace Latino	https://enlacinon.org/en/asheville-hurricane-helene-aid-centers-latino-organizations/
11/7/24	How do migrants who lost everything in the storm rebuild their lives?	Enlace Latino	https://enlacinon.org/en/How-migrants-who-lost-everything-in-the-storm-are-rebuilding-their-lives/
10/31/24	Latino organizations seek solutions at environmental justice symposium	Enlace Latino	https://enlacinon.org/en/Latino-organizations-seek-solutions-at-environmental-justice-symposium/



Appendix G

Local Health Department Priorities Community Health Assessments (2021-2024)



North Carolina local health departments (LHDs) select priorities for community improvement as part of the community health assessment/community health improvement plan (CHA-CHIP) cycle occurring every three to four years. Most LHDs select two to six priorities per cycle.

This graph characterizes the 332 priorities identified between 2021-2024 by grouping similar priorities into nine categories (NC DPH, 2025).