

# PERINATAL QUALITY COLLABORATIVE VERMONT (PQC-VT)

## Coming Together to Support Pregnant People, Infants, and Families



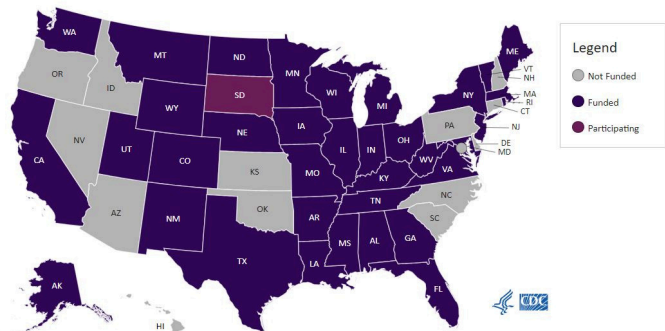
The PQC-VT is Vermont's resource for perinatal and infant health. Through a partnership with the Family and Child Health Division at the Vermont Department of Health (VDH), the Vermont Child Health Improvement Program (VCHIP) implements projects impacting perinatal people, infants, and their families under the PQC-VT umbrella. The PQC-VT mobilizes state networks to implement quality improvement efforts and improve systems of care for perinatal people, infants, and their families.



## WHAT IS THE PERINATAL QUALITY COLLABORATIVE?

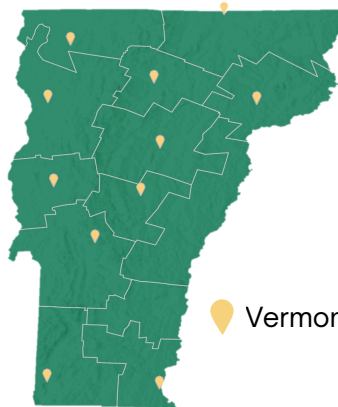
What is a Perinatal Quality Collaborative? PQCs are state or multi-state networks of teams working to improve the quality of care for pregnant people and babies.

PQCs Funded in the United States



## THE PQC-VT'S MISSION

Optimize care and health outcomes for perinatal people and infants through collaboration and continuous quality improvement.



Partnerships with 11 Vermont hospitals with obstetric and newborn services

 Vermont Birthing Hospital

## Among Live Births in Vermont between 2020 and 2024

- 3.6% of births in Vermont were out-of-hospital
- 36.1% used Medicaid as the primary payer for delivery services
- 28.7% were enrolled in WIC during pregnancy
- 89.4% of infants were breastfed upon discharge
- 8% of babies were preterm, born at <37 weeks gestation
- 7.9% of pregnancies had a gestational diabetes diagnosis



# CURRENT PROJECTS

## PERINATAL MENTAL HEALTH

Promote the Vermont Consultation & Psychiatry Access Program with perinatal providers for access to free consultation service regarding patient's psychiatric diagnosis and/or treatment during pregnancy, pre-conception or postpartum. (VTCPAP)

Partner with referring providers and community partners to map current referral processes for individuals facing perinatal mental health concerns and develop standardized workflows to identify clear roles and feedback loops. (P-CARES)

## PERINATAL SUBSTANCE USE

Education and support for health care professionals caring for pregnant people with substance use and their infants to improve systems of care and implement best practice recommendations. (ICoNS)

Collaborate with Alliance for Innovation on Maternal Health on the implementation of the maternal safety bundle on care of pregnant and postpartum people with substance use disorder. (AIM)

Support community-based partners who care for birthing people with substance use disorder with Bidirectional Learning for Improved Support and Services. (BLISS)

## CLINICAL CARE SUPPORT

Access real-time consultation with maternal fetal medicine and neonatology specialists through a 24-hour telephonic and email wrap-around consultation service.

Support efforts to improve clinical care using national maternal safety bundles. This includes focusing on reducing postpartum hemorrhage, severe hypertension in pregnancy and care of pregnant and postpartum people with substance use disorder.

Facilitate quarterly community hospital nurse manager meetings addressing nursing management issues and best practices for pregnant people, newborns, and infant care.

## PERINATAL DATA REVIEW WITH COMMUNITY HOSPITALS

Annual perinatal report and conferences developed for Vermont community hospitals to compare, contrast and trend perinatal health care service delivery and outcomes within and between hospitals.

## BIRTH CERTIFICATE QI INITIATIVE

Convene Vermont community hospital providers and Health Information Management offices (HIM) staff to engage in quality improvement efforts to improve accuracy of the Vermont birth certificate data. (BCQII)

## PATIENT AND FAMILY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The Patient and Family Advisory Committee brings patient and family point of views on issues that impact pregnant and postpartum people in Vermont. (PFAC)

## PERINATAL EDUCATION

Educational webinar series for health care professionals and community partners on Vermont perinatal and infant priorities as well as national emerging issues.

## NEOSIM AND OB DRILL CLINICAL SKILLS TRAINING

Supports neonatal and obstetrical preparedness through on-site skills training at Vermont Community hospitals to support best practices.

## PERINATAL COMMUNITY AND CLINICAL CARE COLLABORATION

Continuous quality improvement initiatives to improve referral processes between clinical care teams and community-based organizations serving pregnant people, newborns and families.

## VERMONT MATERNAL MORTALITY REVIEW PANEL (MMRP)

Participate in the Vermont Department of Health Maternal Mortality Review Panel and assist with the implementation of the clinical and community recommendations included in the MMRP legislative reports.

## PQC-VT LISTSERV

Promote relevant perinatal initiatives across the PQC network of professionals.

The PQC-VT is expanding! Do you want to join us or join our listserv? Contact us at VCHIP:

✉ [vchip.pqcvt@med.uvm.edu](mailto:vchip.pqcvt@med.uvm.edu)

🌐 <https://www.uvm.edu/lernermed/vchip/perinatal-quality-collaborative-vermont-pqc-vt>