Update on Dignity in Pregnancy and Childbirth Act
Continuing Education Requirement

Informational Meeting
March 2023
Land Acknowledgement

Every community owes its existence and vitality to generations from around the world who contributed their hopes, dreams, and energy to making the history that led to this moment. Some were brought here against their will, some were drawn to leave their distant homes in hope of a better life, and some have lived on this land for more generations than can be counted. Truth and acknowledgment are critical to building mutual respect and connection across all barriers of heritage and difference.

We begin this effort to acknowledge what has been buried by honoring the truth. We are standing on the ancestral lands of the Dakota people. We want to acknowledge the Dakota, the Ojibwe, the Ho Chunk, and the other nations of people who also called this place home. We pay respects to their elders past and present. Please take a moment to consider the treaties made by the Tribal nations that entitle non-Native people to live and work on traditional Native lands. Consider the many legacies of violence, displacement, migration, and settlement that bring us together here today. Please join us in uncovering such truths at any and all public events.*

*This is the acknowledgment given in the USDAC Honor Native Land Guide – edited to reflect this space by Shannon Geshick, MTAG, Executive Director Minnesota Indian Affairs Council
Today’s Agenda

1. Overview and Background on Dignity in Pregnancy and Childbirth Act.

2. Access a newly available course developed by CARHE tailored for Minnesota providers.

3. Submit alternative course curriculum.

4. Meet compliance of the statute.

5. Questions and Answers with our key partners.
Dignity in Pregnancy and Childbirth Act - 2021

- Legislation passed in 2021 – [Minnesota Statute 144.1461](https://www.health.state.mn.us)
- Requires all hospitals with obstetric care and birth centers to develop/access continuing education on anti-racism and implicit bias for direct care employees and contractors who routinely care for pregnant/postpartum patients*
  - University of Minnesota’s Center for Anti-racism Research for Health Equity (CARHE) developing a high-quality course to specifically meet the requirements of the statute
  - All materials will be online, free, and available to upload into organization’s existing learning management systems
Dignity in Pregnancy and Childbirth Act

The Dignity in Pregnancy and Childbirth Act (MN § 144.1461), passed by the Minnesota State in 2021, addresses inequities in maternal health care. This legislation includes a requirement for hospitals with obstetric care and birth centers to develop or access a continuing education curriculum and must make available a continuing education course on anti-racism training and implicit bias.

Coming Soon: Dignity in Pregnancy and Childbirth Course

The Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) has partnered with the University of Minnesota Center for Anti-Racism (CARHE) to develop a course that meets legislative criteria. The first of three modules will be available in early January 2023, followed shortly by the final two modules.

Monitoring Implementation

The Commissioner of Health, in coordination with the Minnesota Hospital Association, will monitor the implementation of the statute and may inspect course records or require reports. MDH’s Health Regulation Division will lead the monitoring component.
Timeline

- January 31, 2023:
  - Black birthing population module
- May 31, 2023:
  - Indigenous birthing population module
- June 30, 2023:
  - Release recommended updates and feedback on the modules
The Problem

Compared to white counterparts:

- Black birthing people die 2x as often due to pregnancy complications
- Black babies die 2x as often before their 1st birthday
The Cause

Racism, not race, is a fundamental cause of racial birth health inequities.

- Racism in economy & policy
- Racism in neighborhoods & communities
- *Racism in health systems*
Implicit Bias in Health Care

Implicit racial biases are:

- *Unconscious & automatic*
- Linked to discrimination, declined care for Black patients
- Linked to inadequate treatment, worse health outcomes for Black patients
Dignity in Pregnancy & Childbirth

CENTER FOR ANTIRACISM RESEARCH FOR HEALTH EQUITY

SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH

University of Minnesota
Available online NOW: Black Birthing Module

Short Link:
- z.umn.edu/MNDiPC

Full Link:
- www.diversityscience.org/proven-elearning/minnesota-perinatal-care/
Review of Existing Curricula
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- Highly recommend using the CARHE-developed curriculum that is tailored to the statute, the populations in Minnesota, and developed by world class experts in this field
  - Eligible hospitals and birth centers are not required to use this curriculum
- Organizations can submit their anti-racism training curriculum for review
  - If the curriculum is determined to meet all legislative criteria the curriculum can be used as an option for hospitals and birth centers to meet requirements of MN § 144.1461
Submitted curriculum will be reviewed by a multi-disciplinary group of State staff.

Curriculum must meet **all criteria** to be posted by MDH and fulfill the legislative requirement.

Organizations will be notified in writing of the review result - Organizations can re-submit curriculum for review.

Additional review details, criteria, and a link to submit materials can be found on the [Dignity in Pregnancy and Childbirth Act webpage](http://health.state.mn.us).
The Commissioner of Health, in coordination with MHA, will monitor the implementation of the statute and may inspect course records or require reports (from statute)

MDH’s Health Regulation Division will lead the monitoring component

Hospitals and birth centers will be asked to attest to their compliance with this statute during the Hospital and Critical Access Hospital Licensing Renewal, beginning in October 2023

MDH may review facility records as part of recertification survey or during a compliant investigation, if relevant

Not seeking paperwork for each provider be submitted to MDH
Thank you!

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Dignity in Pregnancy and Childbirth Act: MN Dept of Health

Minnesota Dignity in Pregnancy and Childbirth Project