NICHQ is committed to achieving equity in all forms, including race, nationality, gender identity, sexual orientation, and ability. As our equity work grows, our project portfolio continues to be a reflection of our dedication to ensuring every child reaches their optimal health.

**Equity Systems Continuum**
In response to the impact of systemic racism and other forms of oppression on maternal and child health outcomes, this project aims to create tools for equitable change within both organizations and systems.

**New York State Maternal and Child Health Collaboratives**
NICHQ is supporting the New York State Department of Health’s (NYSDOH) New York State Perinatal Quality Collaborative (NYSPQC) in their efforts to provide the best, safest and most equitable care to people in the perinatal period and their infants. This is achieved through the development and implementation of promising interventions in New York State birthing facilities. Funded by the NYSDOH.

**New York State Birth Equity Improvement Project**
NICHQ is supporting the NYSPQC in their empowerment of birthing facilities to: identify how individual and systemic racism impacts birth outcomes at their organizations; and take action to improve both the experience of care and perinatal outcomes for Black birthing people in the communities they serve.

**National Network of Perinatal Quality Collaboratives**
NICHQ serves as the coordinating center and provides expertise to state-based perinatal quality collaboratives with the goal of deepening and accelerating improvement efforts for maternal and infant health outcomes. Funded by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

**Quality Improvement Community of Learning**
In partnership with the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG) Alliance for Innovation on Maternal Health (AIM), NICHQ has developed a Quality Improvement Community of Learning (COL) to strengthen and support knowledge and understanding of Quality Improvement (QI) methodology. Funded by the Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Services Administration’s (HRSA) Alliance for Innovation on Maternal Health (AIM) program.

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Learn more by visiting our website [www.NICHQ.org](http://www.NICHQ.org)

APRIL 2023

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CURRENT INITIATIVES

maternal and infant health

Sudden Unexpected Infant Death (SUID) Prevention Program
The purpose of this program is to reduce overall rates of SUID and reduce racial and ethnic disparities in SUID by supporting pediatric health care practitioners to provide evidence-based counseling and education to infant caregivers and families; to guide system improvements; and to identify and support policy changes that address state- and community-specific SUID risks. NICHQ collaborates with the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) on engaging a national collaborative to identify and promote community and state SUID prevention best practices. Funded by the Health Resources and Services Administration Maternal and Child Health Bureau through a subcontract with AAP.

Supporting Healthy Start Performance Project
NICHQ, in partnership with the National Healthy Start Association, is providing a comprehensive capacity-building assistance training program for 101 Healthy Start programs nationwide. The training program includes technical assistance on high-priority topics, such as safe sleep, fatherhood and breastfeeding, and training for program staff on core competencies. Funded by the Health Resources and Services Administration Maternal and Child Health Bureau.

UnitedHealthcare (UHC) Catalyst
NICHQ and UHC will implement a Proof-of-Concept project to demonstrate how a partnership between NICHQ, UHC, and Healthy Start can work with communities to address upstream issues that contribute to inequities in maternal and child health. By convening and coordinating the complementary initiatives of Healthy Start and UHC’s Catalyst Center, this project will seek to demonstrate that aligning this work and leveraging resources can identify opportunities to accelerate progress toward equity by successfully identifying and addressing social needs among Healthy Start participants and increasing utilization of services. Funded by United Healthcare.

Florida Children’s Medical Services Learning and Action Network
By building the quality improvement capacity of specialty programs, this learning and action network will grow and support a high-quality system of care in Florida that serves all children and youth with special health care needs, regardless of insurance status and location. Funded by Florida Department of Health.

Hemoglobinopathies National Coordinating Center
NICHQ, with partner organization Abt Associates, is supporting a Hemoglobinopathies National Coordinating Center (HNCC) to help sickle cell disease (SCD) treatment demonstration program grantees – including community and federally qualified health centers – address structural and systemic barriers in their regions and implement evidence-based SCD care. The NICHQ and Abt Associates team are collaborating with organizations such as the Sickle Cell Disease Association of America to improve the quality of – and access to – care for SCD. Funded by the Health Resources and Services Administration Maternal and Child Health Bureau.

special health care needs

Environmental Influences on Child Health Outcomes: Developmental Impact of NICU Exposures
In support of studying the long-term effects of environmental exposures on children who are treated in neonatal intensive care units, NICHQ provides project management and data management and analysis for participating clinical sites. Funded by the National Institutes of Health via the Children’s Hospital at Montefiore/Albert Einstein College of Medicine and the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai.

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