



# Social Drivers of Infant Mortality

## Recommendations worksheet

Use this worksheet to prioritize recommendations for action. This worksheet is designed for local organizations or community groups and can also be used by state-level organizations. Modify as needed to meet the needs in your community.

### Overview

#### Step 1. Engage and explore

- Engage community partners, including Black Ohioans, to review the policy goals and recommendations
- Discuss the relevance of the policy goals and recommendations for your community, organization and sector
- Use the [Housing, Transportation, Education, Employment and Racism Action Guides](#) to learn more about the policy goals and recommendations
- Review data related to the policy goals

Once you have decided which topic or topics to focus on, use this worksheet to complete steps three and four—prioritizing policy goals and specific recommendations.

#### Step 2. Select topic(s)

 Housing	 Transportation	 Education	 Employment	 Eliminating racism
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#### Step 3. Select goal(s) within prioritized topic(s)

<input type="checkbox"/> Rental assistance <input type="checkbox"/> Structural barriers <input type="checkbox"/> Housing supply	<input type="checkbox"/> Medicaid Non-Emergency Medical Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Public transportation	<input type="checkbox"/> Early childhood education and family support programs <input type="checkbox"/> Career-technical and postsecondary	<input type="checkbox"/> Work supports <input type="checkbox"/> Leave policies and employment benefits	<input type="checkbox"/> Partner <input type="checkbox"/> Implement and fund <input type="checkbox"/> Accountability
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#### Step 4. Select 1-2 recommendation(s) within prioritized goals

<b>10</b> Recommendations	<b>8</b> Recommendations	<b>10</b> Recommendations	<b>7</b> Recommendations	<b>9</b> Recommendations
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# Housing worksheet

	<b>Goal 1. Increase availability of rental assistance.</b> Increase funding for programs that assist pregnant women and families, including those with extremely low incomes, with maintaining their current housing or affording new housing.	<b>Goal 2. Reduce structural barriers to affordable housing.</b> Implement policies to protect renters from discrimination, particularly for families at highest risk of eviction and housing instability.	<b>Goal 3. Increase affordable housing supply.</b> Increase funding for affordable housing developments for very low-income and extremely low-income renters and homeowners in high-opportunity and low-poverty rate areas.
State recommendations	<input type="checkbox"/> 1.1. Rapid re-housing and rental assistance funding <input type="checkbox"/> 1.2. Financial incentives for prioritizing pregnant women <input type="checkbox"/> 1.3. Medicaid waiver for tenancy support	<input type="checkbox"/> 2.1. Eviction expungement and other clean slate policies	<input type="checkbox"/> 3.1. Federal Low-Income Housing Tax Credit <input type="checkbox"/> 3.2. State Low-Income Housing Tax Credit
Local recommendations		<input type="checkbox"/> 2.2. Renter protections <input type="checkbox"/> 2.3. Mitigation fund	<input type="checkbox"/> 3.3. Inclusionary zoning <input type="checkbox"/> 3.4. Funding for affordable housing development

## Criteria to consider

- **Scope and nature of the problem:** Consider which topics and goals have the largest impact on your community. What is the scale of the problem? What are community members saying about this issue? Based on available data, how many people are affected?
- **Potential equity impact:** Consider which topics and goals are most important to advance equity in your community. How likely is this issue to affect inequities driving disparities in maternal and infant health?
- **Political feasibility:** Consider any potential barriers that stand in the way. How realistic is it to advance this goal/recommendation at the state or local level? What is the cost/benefit of implementing each recommendation?
- **Evidence of effectiveness:** Consider any research evidence when prioritizing recommendations. How likely is the recommendation to be effective in meeting your goals?
- **Alignment with existing initiatives and partnerships:** Consider which topics and goals have the most momentum behind them. Are there any other existing efforts behind this change? Is there a coalition of organizations or sectors working to advance this goal/recommendation?
- **Other criteria important to your community:** \_\_\_\_\_



# Transportation worksheet

## Goal 4. Improve Medicaid Non-Emergency Medical Transportation.

Monitor and continuously improve the performance of Non-Emergency Medical Transportation (NEMT) provided through Medicaid managed care plans, prioritizing timely services for pregnant women and parents of young children.

## Goal 5. Improve and expand local public transportation.

Strengthen Ohio's public transportation infrastructure through increased investment and expanded transit services in communities most at risk for poor family health outcomes.

State recommendations	<input type="checkbox"/> 4.1. Medicaid oversight <input type="checkbox"/> 4.2. Medicaid transparency <input type="checkbox"/> 4.3. Managed care plan quality improvement	<input type="checkbox"/> 5.1. Transit funding allocation <input type="checkbox"/> 5.2. Transit revenue source
Local recommendations		<input type="checkbox"/> 5.3. Transit service improvements <input type="checkbox"/> 5.4. Discounted transit passes <input type="checkbox"/> 5.5. Community engagement in transportation planning

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# Education worksheet

## Goal 6. Strengthen early childhood education and family support programs.

Increase the number of children participating in high-quality early childhood education and provide support to families with young children.

## Goal 7. Reduce barriers to career-technical education and other postsecondary education programs.

Increase funding and flexibility for career-technical education (CTE) and postsecondary education programs to increase access for secondary school students and older students returning to school, focusing on the needs of economically disadvantaged and Black students.

State and local recommendations	<input type="checkbox"/> 6.1. Home visiting funding <input type="checkbox"/> 6.2. Father engagement program funding <input type="checkbox"/> 6.3. Early childhood education quality	<input type="checkbox"/> 7.1. Career-technical education funding <input type="checkbox"/> 7.2. CTE program and participation supports
State recommendations	<input type="checkbox"/> 6.4. Supports for early childhood care and education professionals <input type="checkbox"/> 6.5. Supports for early childhood education startups	<input type="checkbox"/> 7.3. Supports for CTE instructors <input type="checkbox"/> 7.4. Postsecondary education incentives <input type="checkbox"/> 7.5. Postsecondary financial aid for older students returning to school

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## § Employment worksheet

	<p><b>Goal 8. Increase access to work supports.</b> Structure public and private benefits to help families with young children advance in their careers and reach self-sufficiency.</p>	<p><b>Goal 9. Adopt more robust leave policies and employment benefits.</b> Cultivate public and private workplaces that provide flexibility and support for pregnant women and families with young children.</p>
State and local recommendations		<input type="checkbox"/> 9.1. Flexible workplace benefits <input type="checkbox"/> 9.2. Paid family leave <input type="checkbox"/> 9.3. Living wage standard <input type="checkbox"/> 9.4. Breastfeeding support
State recommendations	<input type="checkbox"/> 8.1. Childcare subsidies <input type="checkbox"/> 8.2. Benefits phase-outs <input type="checkbox"/> 8.3. Employer-sponsored childcare supports	

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# Eliminating racism worksheet

## Goal 10. Authentically partner with Black Ohioans and tailor policies and programs to meet their needs.

Establish trust with members of Black communities and Black-led organizations across the state, share power and decision-making authority, and customize policies and programs to ensure they achieve equity.

- 10.1. Trust building
- 10.2. Cultural competency and skill development
- 10.3. Safe and accessible community meetings

## Goal 11. Implement and fund policies and programs that promote justice and fairness.

Implement evidence-informed policies and programs to achieve equity, including recommendations listed in this report, and contribute resources to dismantle racism and increase opportunities for healthy births.

- 11.1. Plan implementation
- 11.2. Impact assessment
- 11.3. Funding for initiatives to eliminate structural racism

## Goal 12. Increase accountability for eliminating disparities in birth outcomes.

As policies and programs to advance birth equity are implemented, ensure that these policies are evaluated, progress is reported and decisionmakers are held accountable for improvement.

- 12.1. State plan progress reports
- 12.2. Local implementation progress reports
- 12.3. Evaluation

State and local recommendations

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