The health and longevity of newborn babies is a good measure of a society's overall well-being. Right now, Michigan is not measuring up. With national rankings for maternal and infant health coming in the bottom half, it's clear we have a long way to go. But there's not a quick fix, and it's going to mean investing in the right resources to support moms and babies throughout our state.

Here are some key findings and recommendations for improving maternal and infant health outcomes. For more information, check out the Right Start 2020: Thriving Babies Start with Strong Moms report at www.mlpp.org.

### Systemic Issues

- **Nearly 53%** of all pregnancy-related deaths in Michigan between 2011 and 2016 were preventable.
- **30%** of women in the United States who gave birth in a hospital reported mistreatment from a healthcare provider.
- **1 in 4** women in the U.S. return to work within 10 days of giving birth.

**Policy Solutions:** Advocate for paid parental leave | Restore Michigan’s Earned Income Tax Credit to 20% of federal credit

### Access to Healthcare

- **95%** of Michiganders have some type of health insurance.
- **5 million** women in the United States live in a community without a doctor or facility that provides OB care.
- **1/2** of rural counties in the United States don’t have a hospital that offers OB services, and maternal and infant mortality rates are greater in rural areas than urban areas.

**Policy Solutions:** Continue to support the Affordable Care Act and the Healthy Michigan Plan | Broaden reimbursement rates for rural health facilities and group prenatal care

### Health Issues

- **59%** of Michigan women age 18-44 were considered overweight or obese in 2018, which increases risk of heart disease, high blood pressure and diabetes.

Women in Michigan who receive inadequate prenatal care experience infant mortality three times as high as women who receive more prenatal care.

**More than half** of pregnancy-related deaths in Michigan occur postpartum, often due to issues involving mental health.

**Policy Solutions:** Expand home visiting programs | Extend Medicaid Coverage to 12 Months Postpartum | Enhance reimbursement rates for care that benefits maternal and infant health