

Update on DHS Maternal Health Initiatives

Elizabeth Pitman, Director, Division of Medical Services
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Current Initiatives

1. *Healthy Moms, Healthy Babies* and other 2025 Legislation
2. Transforming Maternal Health (TMaH) Grant
3. Maternal Life360 Homes



Healthy Moms, Healthy Babies

1. DHS has already implemented presumptive eligibility and global unbundling.

- Presumptive Eligibility began June 1, 2025.
- Total number made presumptively eligible:

June	July	August	September	October*	Total
342	603	851	935	577	3,308

- Global Unbundling began July 1, 2025

*As of October 13, 2025

2. The following is under review and soon to begin promulgation:

- Remote monitoring
- Doula Coverage
- Lactation Specialists^

3. CHW policy is still being written.

^Separate Legislation (Act 627)

Transforming Maternal Health Grant

1. We are currently laying the groundwork to begin making provider payments in 2027 (Model Year 3). This effort includes engaging stakeholders to develop payment policies and models around the following:
 - Doulas, CHWs, CNMs, birthing centers, group and mobile pregnancy service models, remote monitoring, and home visiting.
 - The *Healthy Moms, Healthy Babies* legislation worked on by the Governor and the Legislature put us ahead of our timeline for these efforts.

Payments	Model Years	Supported Activities	Distributing Entity
Provider Infrastructure Payments	3-5 (2027-2029)	1. Patient safety initiatives and maternal care assessments. 2. Quality measure reporting 3. Data integration and other data driven activities 4. Team-based care 5. Enhanced access to care 6. Connections to address health related social needs and behavioral health	Arkansas Hospital Association



Transforming Maternal Health Grant

Other TMaH Initiatives include:

- Expanding use of mobile and telehealth options
- Expanding use of midwives
- Looking at group pregnancy models
- Increasing adoption of Alliance for Innovation on Maternal Health (AIM) bundles and Birthing Friendly hospital designations
- Investing in a closed loop referral system

Establishing workgroups to work on these different areas.



Maternal Life360 Homes



Craighead County

St. Bernards Medical Center Pregnancy Clinic and Parents as Teachers, Jonesboro
Urban Renewal and Housing (JURHA) – 4334 E Highland Drive, Suite B, Jonesboro,
AR 72402

1-870-207-0421 or email kntucker@sbrmc.org

Independence County

White River Health System – Pioneer Parent HUB- Community Connection Center
490 E College Suite 104 Batesville, AR 72501

1-870-793-0627 or email cmartin@gobsd1.org

Pulaski and Saline County

Baptist Health Medical Center – Little Rock

Call (501) 202-4099 or email mihow@baptist-health.org

Pulaski and Faulkner County

Baptist Health Medical Center – North Little Rock

Call (501) 202-4099 or email mihow@baptist-health.org

Life360 Homes have served **114 women** as of August 1, 2025.

Three hospitals are actively pursuing Life360 Enrollment.



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Upcoming Activities

1. Begin promulgation of remaining *Healthy Moms, Healthy Babies initiatives*
2. Develop birth center policies with TMaH workgroup and begin that promulgation
3. Develop payment process for Provider Infrastructure Payments (including application)
4. Implement a closed-loop referral system to address health related social needs
5. Work with DIS and SHARE to build out data integration and use of electronic health records
6. Establish quality metrics to be used in provider incentive payments and value-based payments for TMaH; begin to collect that data
7. Continue to recruit and onboard Life360 Home providers to serve pregnant women

