



# BHW Investments in Maternal Health

## Advisory Committee on Infant and Maternal Mortality

*June 26, 2024*

**Elizabeth Kittrie, Senior Advisor**  
**Office of the Associate Administrator**  
**Bureau of Health Workforce (BHW)**

**Vision: Healthy Communities, Healthy People**



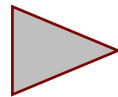
# Bureau of Health Workforce

**MISSION** Improves the health of underserved populations by

- ▶ strengthening the health workforce
- ▶ connecting skilled professionals to communities in need



**EDUCATION**



**TRAINING**



**SERVICE**



# HRSA Workforce Program Aims



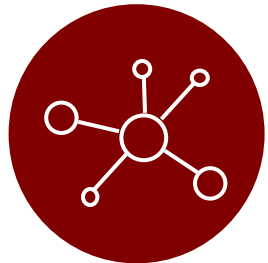
## **ACCESS**

Make it easier for people to access health care



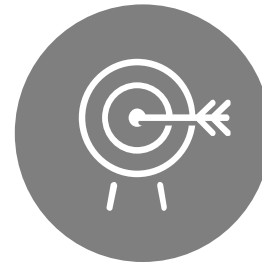
## **SUPPLY**

Balance the supply of health workers with the demand for care



## **DISTRIBUTION**

Improve distribution of the health workforce



## **QUALITY**

Improve the quality of the health workforce and the care they provide

# Which maternal health occupations does BHW support?



## Relevant authorities

PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE ACT / TITLES III, VII AND VIII

## Current focus (FY 2024)

- Primary care physicians
- Advanced practice registered nurses and registered nurses
- Perinatal workforce (as part of broader BHW programs)
  - Addiction specialists
  - Behavioral health peer specialists
  - Community health workers
  - Pediatric subspecialists
  - Physician assistants-women's health



# Key Investments in the Maternal Health Workforce



Health Workforce Analyses



Nurse Midwifery Expansion



Maternal Care Target Area Scores



Residencies and Fellowships



Scholarships and Loan Repayment



Behavioral Health/SUD Integration



# Projected Workforce Shortage: OB/GYNs

## Supply & Demand Trends

### Change in Total Supply 2021-2036

**-5,000 ▼ -10%**

Starting Value: 50,670    Ending Value: 45,670

### Change in Total Demand 2021-2036

**1,610 ▲ 3%**

Starting Value: 50,670    Ending Value: 52,280

### Total Percent Adequacy 2036

**87%**

## ➤ Obstetrics and Gynecology Physicians

Cumulative Percent Change Over Time Since 2021

3 yr Interval



■ Supply, Total

■ Demand, Total

## Maldistribution

### Metro Percent Adequacy 2036

**91%**

### NonMetro Percent Adequacy 2036

**54%**

### Women in Counties without OB-GYNs

**10.3 M**  
(2020)



<https://data.hrsa.gov/topics/health-workforce/workforce-projections>



# Projected Workforce Shortage: Family Medicine Physicians

## Supply & Demand Trends

### Change in Total Supply 2021-2036

9,830 ▲ 9%

Starting Value: 109,450    Ending Value: 119,280

### Change in Total Demand 2021-2036

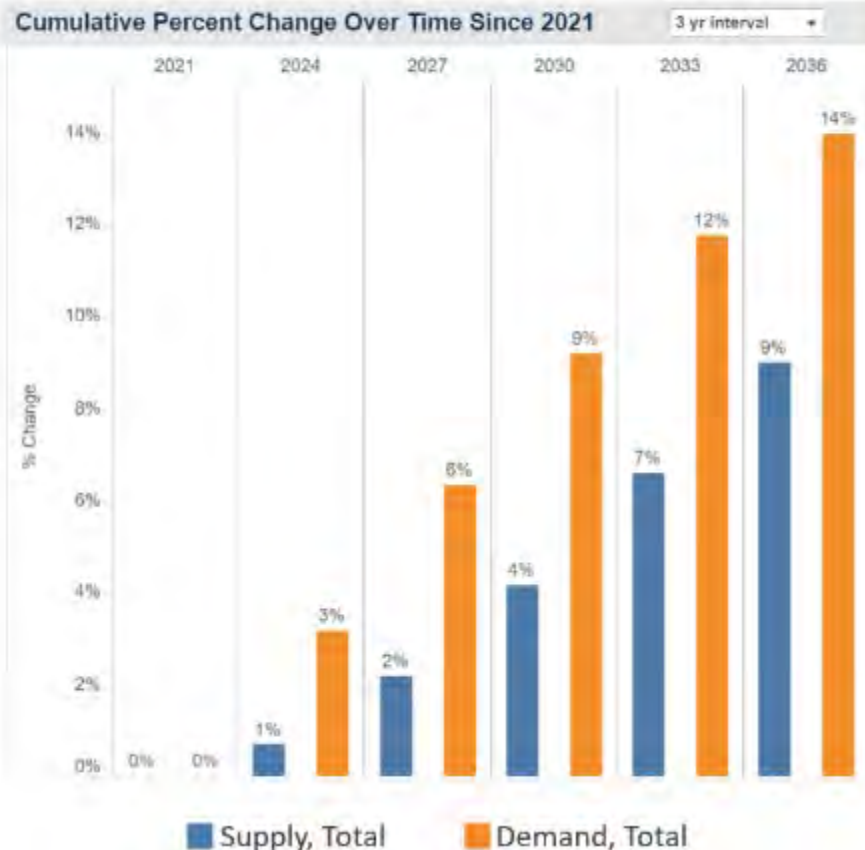
18,650 ▲ 14%

Starting Value: 133,730    Ending Value: 152,380

### Total Percent Adequacy 2036

78%

## Family Medicine Physicians



## Maldistribution

### Metro Percent Adequacy 2036

79%

### NonMetro Percent Adequacy 2036

73%

## Contribution

### Percent of Time Providing Women's Services

7%  
(2015-2016)

<https://data.hrsa.gov/topics/health-workforce/workforce-projections>



# Maternity Care Target Areas (MCTA)

**7,384** Primary Care Health Professional Shortage Areas have MCTA scores

## ➤ Shortage of Maternity Care Professionals

Obstetrics/Gynecology  
Nurse Midwives

## ➤ MCTA Scoring Criteria

Population-to-Provider Ratio  
Population Income Level  
Travel to Source of Care  
Fertility Rate  
Social Vulnerability  
Maternal Health Indicators

**52%**  
of MCTAs  
have a score  
of 16+

<https://data.hrsa.gov/tools/shortage-area/hpsa-find>





# National Health Service Corps Loan Repayment & Scholarships



Support clinicians in high-need areas in exchange for service commitments

18,335 clinicians in the field in 2023 included:

- 219 OB-GYNs
- 137 family practice physicians with obstetrics
- 263 certified nurse midwives
- 300 students currently completing their education and training to be maternal care providers

FY2024 carve outs

- \$40K supplement in Students to Scholarship Program
- \$15M set aside for ITU



# Nurse Corps Loan Repayment and Scholarships

Supports nurse clinicians and nurse faculty in exchange for service commitments

3,628 clinicians in the field in 2023 included:

- 83 Certified Nurse Midwives
- 88 Nurse Practitioners – Women’s Health
- 37 Registered Nurse – Certified in Obstetrics/Gynecology

Focus on women’s health in Fiscal Year 2024

- Up to \$5 million set aside for scholarships
- Up to \$5 million set aside for loan repayments



# Nurse Midwifery Training Programs

## ➤ Maternity Care Nursing Workforce Expansion Program

Support accredited nurse midwifery programs

- Trainee scholarships and stipends
- Curriculum enhancement
- Community-based training

Grow and diversify the workforce in rural, urban underserved and tribal communities

**Funding:** \$8 M

**Awards:** 10

**Project period:** 2023-2027



## ➤ Scholarships for Disadvantaged Students

Promote diversity among the health professions and nursing schools

Support students from disadvantaged backgrounds with demonstrated financial need

**Funding:** \$5 M allocation

**Awards:** 5 for midwifery

**Project period:** 2020-2025



# Teaching Health Center Graduate Medical Education Programs

AY 2023-2024

**82**

Teaching Health Center  
Residency Programs



**3**

OB-GYN  
Programs

**50**

Family  
Medicine  
Programs

**92**

Teaching Health Center Planning  
and Development Grantees



**1**

OB-GYN  
Program

**46**

Family  
Medicine  
Programs



# Primary Care Training and Enhancement: Community Prevention and Maternal Health Program



Increase the number of primary care physicians trained in:

- Public health and general preventive medicine with maternal health care expertise
- Enhanced obstetrical care practicing in rural and/or underserved areas

**Funding:** \$16 M

**Awards:** 30 [20 clinical, 10 community prevention]

**Project Period:** 2021-2026



# Improving Maternal Health Outcomes



## American Journal of Public Health Supplement 4 2024

Focuses on the PCTE: Community Prevention  
and Maternal Health Program

Explores the influence of the following on  
maternal health outcomes:

- Social determinants of health
- Public health protections
- Access to quality clinical care

<https://ajph.aphapublications.org/toc/ajph/114/S4>

# Behavioral Health & SUD Integration into Primary Care

## ADDICTION MEDICINE FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

expands the number of fellows at accredited addiction medicine and addiction psychiatry programs.

Budget  
(FY 2024)

**\$25 M**



### AY 2022-2023

Trainees	159
Training sites	296
Training sites in medically underserved communities	71%
Courses on SUDs developed or enhanced	325

# FY2025 Budget Request – Maternal Health Workforce

PROPOSED APPROPRIATION + INCREASE OVER FY 2023\*

Nursing Workforce Development  
\$320.5 M | +20 M

- Nurse Education, Practice, Quality and Retention Program | +13 awards
- Maternity Care Nursing Workforce Expansion Program | +10 awards



Behavioral Health Workforce Development  
\$253.6 M | +\$56.5 M

- Behavioral Health Education and Training Programs | +12,000 trainees
- Increase access to family services | inc. maternal behavioral health services

\*Given how late the FY 2024 budget was signed into law, we do not yet have figures relative to FY 2024.



# Questions

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# Contact Us

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