

What We Do

CONVEY committee findings in an annual recommendations report to use as a guide for addressing and refining the care of Rhode Island's perinatal population.

ADVANCE maternal health recommendations through the Data-to-Action Team.

EXPAND the understanding of pregnancy & postpartum deaths and their contributing factors.

ENGAGE with representatives from affected populations, including Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) & various healthcare professionals, such as maternal-fetal medicine physicians, midwives, OB/GYNs, doulas, lactation professionals, nurses, and behavioral health specialists.

PARTNER with Rhode Island's Child Death Review Team and the Overdose Fatality Review Team to identify areas to advance preventative measures.

DEVELOP and disseminate annual, action oriented recommendations to improve healthcare systems, promote health equity, and decrease deaths during pregnancy and the postpartum period.

Learn More

For more information, visit the Rhode Island Department of Health website at health.ri.gov

Scan Me



Contact Us

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Pregnancy and Postpartum Death Review Committee (PPDRC)



Eliminating preventable perinatal deaths, reducing perinatal morbidities, and improving population health for people in the perinatal period.

OUR MISSION

Identify all pregnancy-associated deaths in Rhode Island, review deaths caused by pregnancy complications and/or other associated causes, identify factors contributing to these deaths, recommend public health and clinical interventions that may reduce these deaths and improve systems of care.

DEFINITIONS

- **Pregnancy-associated:** A death during pregnancy or within one year of the end of pregnancy irrespective of cause.
- **Pregnancy-related:** A death during pregnancy or within one year of the end of pregnancy from a pregnancy complication, a chain of events initiated by pregnancy, or the aggravation of an unrelated condition by the physiologic effects of pregnancy.

OUR COMMITTEE

The PPDRC is a multidisciplinary review board that first convened in 2021 to examine the deaths of those who were pregnant or within one year of pregnancy when they died.

OVERVIEW

This diverse group meets quarterly to examine the deaths of all perinatal people who were pregnant or within one year of pregnancy when they died. The committee determines if eligible deaths are related to and/or associated with pregnancy. Three cases are reviewed at each meeting. Collaboratively, PPDRC members identify areas of opportunity for systemic changes that could decrease deaths in Rhode Island during pregnancy and the postpartum period. Specific, action-oriented recommendations are formed to address areas of opportunity for change.

OUR PARTNERS

- Brown University Health
- Community College of Rhode Island
- Data-to-Action Team
- Department of Child, Youth & Families
- Doula groups
- Five RI birthing hospitals
- Governor's Overdose Prevention and Intervention Task Force
- Narragansett Indian Tribe
- Perinatal Neonatal Quality Collaborative of RI
- Progreso Latino
- RI Maternal Psychiatry Resource Network
- SISTA Fire
- Sojourner House
- Substance Exposed Newborns Task Force
- Warren Alpert Medical School at Brown University

MULTIDISCIPLINARY REVIEW BOARD

The PPDRC consists of subject matter experts of the following areas:

- Affected Population Representatives, including Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC)
- Behavioral Health
- Cardiology
- Clinical Pharmacy
- Doulas, Midwifery, and Lactation
- Family Medicine and Primary Care
- Health Insurance
- Higher Education
- Intimate Partner Violence Prevention
- Maternal-Fetal Medicine
- Nursing
- Obstetric and Gynecological Healthcare
- Pathology
- Perinatal Support
- Reproductive Psychiatry

