



National **MCH** Workforce
Development Center
Advancing Health Transformation

Simulation

During the beginning phases of the needs assessment process performance measures are selected. The next step is to identify activities and evidence-based strategies to address the selected performance measures. One priority for the upcoming year is to focus efforts on reducing low-risk cesarean deliveries. The needs assessment team had the opportunity to work with systems experts from the MCH National Workforce Development Center to create a simulation model of potential evidence-based strategies to determine the impact each strategy might have on cesarean deliveries. The simulation model was presented to a stakeholder group (~30 stakeholders from across the state) to identify which evidence-based strategies would work best for their state.

Using the Tool

Prior to the stakeholder meeting, the needs assessment team and MCH National Workforce Development team:

- Conducts a comprehensive literature review to identify evidence-based practices supporting low-risk c-section reduction
- Works with the MCH National Workforce Development Center team to create a stock-and-flow simulation model. The model showed how cesarean-section rates in the state might be affected by implementing different evidence-based strategies, as well as how the degree of implementation might affect outcomes.
- Invites more the 30 stakeholders from across the state to attend a planning session to review and use the model

The day of the stakeholder meeting, the team:

- Reviews cesarean delivery statistics and current state initiatives addressing cesarean rates.
- Demonstrates the simulation model with participants.
- Divides stakeholders into small groups and ask them to:
 - Use the simulation model to identify and prioritize which strategies would work best given the current landscape in the state.
 - Discuss potential barriers/facilitators for implementing each of the strategies.
 - Discuss how stakeholders might support implementation of the priority strategies..
- Assembles small groups together to share their recommendations on which evidence-based strategies will work best for the state and why.

Using the Information to Inform NEXT STEPS IN the Needs Assessment PROCESS

To ensure the information from the stakeholder meeting is used to inform next steps,

- Summarize the list of the priority strategies from the meeting that includes a summary of facilitators/barriers and identifies partners interested in moving the strategy forward.

- Hold a second meeting to continue to flesh out potential timelines for implementing the strategies, identify existing resources to support implementation, and determine who might lead implementation of each intervention.