**Background**

- **Dynamic, interacting factors shape public policy priorities.**
- The public health workforce is one of many stakeholders that must collaborate for sustainable change.
- Within complex public health systems, no single entity has the ability to identify a need, explore and select a response, and prepare for and deliver that response as intended.
- Very few well-defined, evidence-informed practices exist for navigating these complex systems in the midst of health reform.
- Implementation and systems science can be used to develop, plan and support change efforts over time.

**Our Role:**

The National Maternal and Child Health (MCH) Workforce Development Center (Center) provides state and territorial MCH leaders and their partners training, collaborative learning, coaching and consultation to advance reform recommendations to:

- Shift the emphasis of health service delivery from disease management to prevention and population health management, while improving access to services.
- Develop an interdisciplinary approach to health, integrating primary care, public health and specialty care.
- Improve health systems efficiency through ongoing quality improvement; and
- Drive partnerships across sectors to optimize the well-being of women, children, families and communities.

**Objective**

Describe how applied implementation and systems science tools can guide and inform health reform efforts to improve the lives of women, children, families and communities.

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**Table 1: Summary of State Progress**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Focus Area</th>
<th>State</th>
<th>Key Tools Used</th>
<th>Accomplishments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reforming practice to improve maternal and child health care coordination and delivery</td>
<td>MD</td>
<td>Whole Systems Mapping</td>
<td>Established and/or strengthened relationships between key state and local partners</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Process Flow Diagramming</td>
<td>Successfully used workforce development tools</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Impact Matrix</td>
<td>Identified over 90 programmatic and cross-agency policy systems change opportunities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Established data and models between the state and state CYSCHN to review outcomes and assess deployment challenges</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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**Figure 2: Products of Systems Methods**

- **System Dynamics Causal Loop Diagramming**
- **Circle of Care Framework**
- **Whole System Mapping**
- **Process Flow Diagramming**
- **Network Mapping**

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**References**