



December 16, 2024

Dear Ohio Equity Institute Leader:

ODM and its managed care organizations (MCOs) are excited to announce that the current OEI IM grant period will be extended by an additional year beginning Wednesday, January 1, 2025, and ending Wednesday, December 31, 2025. The MCOs will work with each lead entity to arrange for the provision of one-year additional funding equaling up to one-half of your original two-year grant amount; with the intention of using these funds to extend your ongoing work in your communities for the period mentioned. These monies will allow you to continue focusing on projects that have been impactful for moms and their babies based on CBO data submitted to The Ohio Department of Medicaid. **The amount allocated to Franklin County for the time period of January 1, 2025 – December 31, 2025 is \$2,260,000.00.**

In the upcoming days your respective MCO liaisons will reach out to you to discuss the funding in more detail, including requirements to develop a plan for working through the extra 12 months, submission of a full year's budget, and necessary contractual amendments. Proposals for consideration must be in alignment with the parameters for the current funding cycle's [Infant Mortality Request for Applications](#). Please include in your proposals what your organization believes would be the best strategies to utilize the additional funding and consider including doula education and training opportunities as certification is now available through the Ohio Board of Nursing.

All data collection is now being managed through The Ohio Department of Medicaid's Office of Health Innovation via Briana Williams who may be reached at briana.williams@medicaid.ohio.gov regarding data inquiries. I am accessible by phone at 614-752-4887, the Infant Mortality email infantmortality@medicaid.ohio.gov and traci.bell-thomas@medicaid.ohio.gov.

As always, thank you for everything you do in helping mothers have successful pregnancies and their babies thrive!

Traci Bell-Thomas
Infant Mortality Project Lead