



## Social Drivers of Infant Mortality

# Coalition-building worksheet

This tool is a part of the [Social Drivers of Infant Mortality: Recommendations for Action and Accountability in Ohio series](#).

Many factors contribute to infant mortality, such as having a safe place to live and access to a good-paying job. Your organization alone, however, does not need to take on every driver of infant mortality; instead, you can partner and collaborate with others to strategically allocate resources and coordinate services. Through collaboration with a variety of partners from sectors beyond health, coalitions can amplify efforts to tackle these big issues and reduce infant mortality. Coalitions can also allow partners to specialize and are more effective when they engage partners with diverse resources, focus areas and data that contribute to shared goals.

### What partners should you engage?

This worksheet is designed to help local maternal and child health organizations, such as infant mortality collaboratives, strengthen relationships with sectors beyond health. It can be used to inventory existing and new potential partners and create a plan for how to best engage them in your work to improve the social drivers of infant mortality.

After selecting policy goals and recommendations to prioritize in the [Recommendations Worksheet](#), complete this information in the blank table below:

- **Partner name and contact:** Identify all the stakeholders, at the local- and state-levels, who are involved with the policy areas you prioritized. Think beyond healthcare providers and infant mortality initiatives to include a broad range of public partners (such as local transit authorities) and private partners (such as workforce development nonprofits). Partners can include anyone who may be interested in or can influence your work, including funders, service providers, government entities, community members, etc.
- **Goals:** Find out what motivates each partner. What are their interests and objectives? How do their priorities align with the social drivers of infant mortality?
- **Resources and assets:** Inventory each partner and note what they can bring to the table. What skills, resources, experience or relationships does this partner have? What sets them apart from other stakeholders? Identify potential gaps in resources and brainstorm additional partners who may be a good fit.
- **Geographic and/or population focus:** Identify which geographic areas and populations the partners serve, represent, advocate for and/or engage with. This can help ensure that you have partners representing or serving the populations most affected by infant mortality in your area.
- **Access to data:** Take note of any data partners are collecting or have access to that could be leveraged by the coalition. Use this list to begin conversations about how data can be used to inform your priorities and monitor progress over time.



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## Coalition partner inventory

Using the instructions above, fill out the table below for all new and existing partners relevant to your selected policy goal(s) and recommendation(s).

**Policy goal:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Recommendation(s):** \_\_\_\_\_

### Inventory of potential partner organizations aligned with the selected policy goal and recommendation(s):

Partner name and contact	Goals	Resources and assets	Geographic and/or population focus	Access to data
<b>Example:</b> <i>Buckeye County Land Bank, Juana Pérez (CEO)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase supply of affordable housing</li> <li>• Repurpose vacant, unsafe and/or underutilized properties</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Relationships with local policymakers</li> <li>• Experience navigating complex housing partnerships</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Buckeye county residents</li> <li>• Families with low incomes</li> </ul>	<i>Vacant property inventory</i>



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## Other useful resources

- [Creating and Maintaining Coalitions and Partnerships](#), The Community Toolbox, Center for Community Health and Development, University of Kansas
- [Coalition Building Toolkit](#), Partners in Prevention, University of Missouri
- [Collective Impact](#), Stanford Social Innovation Review
- [Work Together](#), County Health Rankings and Roadmaps
- [Building Coalitions](#), College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences, The Ohio State University

## Note

This worksheet was modified and adapted from “Stakeholder Mapping Tool,” Reproductive Health National Training Center, 2020; and “Coalition Building Toolkit,” Partners in Prevention.