

In July 2023, Gov. Phil Murphy signed into law the New Jersey Maternal and Infant Health Innovation Center Act ("Act") establishing the New Jersey Maternal and Infant Health Innovation Authority (NJMIHIA). NJMIHIA is the first and only state authority in the nation focused on improving outcomes and addressing disparities in maternal and infant health.

NJMIHIA's enabling legislation tasks it with being at the forefront of serving maternal and infant health care needs for families throughout the state. NJMIHIA is statutorily empowered to develop collaborative partnerships for research and knowledge exchange within the local, state, national and global maternal and infant health landscapes.

Since this innovative authority launched its first board meeting March 2024, the NJMIHIA team has been actively engaged in building its infrastructure while developing plans for the construction of the New Jersey Maternal and Infant Health Innovation Center (MIHIC) in Trenton and conducting significant outreach to raise awareness of its mission.

NJMIHIA builds on the successes of First Lady Tammy Murphy's Nurture NJ initiative, which seeks to make New Jersey the safest and most equitable place to have a baby and raise a child. By creating NJMIHIA, the Act ensured that Nurture NJ's initiatives will continue long after the Murphy Administration to protect the maternal and infant health of all New NJMIHIA Jersevans. is the statewide coordinating entity responsible for ensuring all mothers in New Jersey have the support they need for a healthy pregnancy and birth.

By ensuring that infant and perinatal care is provided on an equitable basis, NJMIHIA will address racial disparities in maternal and infant mortality rates. This work includes healthcare and social service delivery, research and innovation, perinatal workforce development, as well as education and public awareness efforts. NJMIHIA will make New Jersey the gold standard for maternal health.