

Expanding Access to Reproductive Health Care

HMA brings together experts from a full spectrum of reproductive health services including policy, clinical, operations, and research. Our team of experts have significant experience with maternity care, child health issues, and family planning. We work with clients to reach shared goals of supporting maternal and child health, expanding access to the full spectrum of reproductive health services, reducing high rates of maternal and infant mortality and morbidity, and addressing deep and persistent racial disparities in birth outcomes and the inequities that drive them.



OUR REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH EXPERTS INCLUDE:

- » Former state directors of Title X, Title V Maternal and Child Health programs and the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP)
- » Former senior officials from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services and the Health Resources and Services Administration
- » Advocates and former leaders of community-based organizations, foundations, and other programs that support reproductive health
- » Clinicians with experience providing a full range of reproductive health services
- » Social workers and behavioral health professionals working to integrate approaches that address social and behavioral health needs
- » Program development, strategic planning, and technical assistance experts working to implement innovative models of perinatal care and policy change to address social and economic drivers of maternal health
- » Experts in value-based payment and operations related to innovative models of perinatal care from the payer and provider perspectives
- » Researchers and evaluators with extensive experience examining the implementation and impact of policy and operational changes on reproductive health services

Our experts can support your work to expand equitable access to sexual and reproductive health care.

With 23 offices, more than 500 health care consultants with a wide spectrum of industry experience, and longstanding expertise in all 50 states, HMA has experienced staff in needs assessments, program evaluation, Medicaid policy development and implementation, strategic planning, clinical services, and operations at the health and human services agency, provider, and health plan levels. Our portfolio of companies also give you access to actuarial, data analytics and communications expertise, and more.

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Project Examples:

Evaluating the potential impact of Federal, State, and Medicaid-specific policy changes on access to care

HMA contracted with Planned Parenthood to conduct assessments and develop reports on how access to reproductive health care would be impacted if Planned Parenthood health centers in Wisconsin no longer participated in the state Medicaid Program. These included detailed assessments of capacity among Essential Community Providers and geo-mapping of safety net people health care resources.

HMA also contracted with the Kaiser Family Foundation to better understand access to reproductive care for low-income people in five communities across the country and has conducted 50-state surveys to understand state policies. We conducted interviews with clinicians, social service providers, community-based organizations, researchers, and health care advocates, as well as focus groups with people in five “medically underserved” communities to understand how national, state, and local policies, as well as cultural factors, shape access to contraceptive care, sexually transmitted infection prevention and treatment, obstetrical care, and abortion services.

Evidence-Based Substance Use Disorder Treatment

As part of our role in the California Medications for Addiction Treatment (MAT) Expansion Project, HMA partnered with the California Maternal and Perinatal Quality Care Collaboratives to carry out the Mother & Baby Substance Use Exposure Initiative Project, providing technical assistance to agencies and organizations throughout the state. Learn more at addictionfreeca.org.

Conducting needs assessments and financial modeling to expand health care access and inform strategic planning

As part of our extensive area of work in strategic planning with state and local agencies, providers of health and human services, community-based organizations and many more, HMA has worked with clients that provide reproductive health care services to assess potential opportunities and approaches for expansion, delivery and financing of care to reach underserved communities.

Contraceptive access issues—exploring policy and provider-level concerns

HMA has worked with Federally qualified health centers (FQHCs), Medicaid agencies and with a non-profit organization researching policy barriers and provider issues related to long-acting reversible contraceptive (LARC) access at the state and local level, including exploring 340B program issues, managed care integration of family planning, billing challenges, and provider perceptions, and developing toolkits to support making the full range of contraceptive options accessible in Medicaid. We have provided technical assistance to state Medicaid agencies pursuing LARC payment changes and engaged stakeholders to understand the impact of policy changes and the ingredients of successful implementation.

Multi-stakeholder efforts to support better birth outcomes, with a focus on eliminating racial disparities

HMA is working on the ground with state and local public health agencies as well as community-based organizations to support their efforts to reduce racial disparities in birth outcomes. As the backbone organization for the Delaware Healthy Women Healthy Babies Zones initiative HMA performed collective impact evaluations and capacity-building with community-based organizations working to end racial disparities in maternal and infant outcomes. With the Frederick County, Maryland Health Department, HMA conducted a study using a community-based participatory research (CBPR) approach to understand and articulate drivers of maternal and infant health disparities experienced by Black women. HMA is also providing support and technical assistance to multiple state and local efforts to design and implement Medicaid reimbursement for doula services, and to support the infrastructure needed to make these efforts successful and sustainable.

Enhanced models of perinatal care in Medicaid

HMA conducted a five-year evaluation of the federally funded Strong Start for Mothers and Newborns Initiative, which examined the impact of enhanced prenatal care on maternal and infant health outcomes. Our interviews and focus groups explored experiences of care among a very diverse sample of nearly 1,000 women and dozens of providers in a wide variety of settings across 32 states over five years. We continue to build on this experience with further work on integration of enhanced models of care into Medicaid and value-based payment, including for group prenatal care.

ABOUT HMA

HMA is a leading independent research and consulting firm with more than 500 consultants with expertise across all domains of publicly funded healthcare and human services. HMA has distinguished itself from other consulting companies with our decades-long tradition of hiring senior-level policymakers, healthcare system leaders, and other experts with hands-on experience.