



Reflections on MO HealthNet's Optimizing Benefits for Maternal & Infant Health Events

By Christina Kerby, MCOH Community Outreach & Project Development Director

Over the past few weeks, I had the opportunity to attend MO HealthNet's Optimizing Benefits for Maternal & Infant Health events. I found these sessions to be incredibly informative and valuable, especially for professionals who work with mothers, infants, and families across Missouri.

The events provided a helpful overview of healthcare benefits, policy updates, program offerings, and resources available to support pregnant women, infants, and families. Presenters represented MO HealthNet, UnitedHealthcare, Healthy Blue, Home State Health, the Office of Dental Health, and the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services Division of Community & Public Health.

Topics included maternal and infant health benefits, oral health during pregnancy, perinatal hepatitis B, lead exposure, available managed care supports, and community-based resources. I especially appreciated that each session allowed time for questions and conversation, giving attendees the chance to better understand how these resources can be used in real situations.

This was a wonderful learning and networking opportunity for healthcare providers, community health workers, care coordinators, and community partners. I left with a stronger understanding of the many supports available through MO HealthNet and its partners, as well as how important collaboration is in improving maternal and infant health outcomes.

Upcoming Optimizing Benefits for Maternal & Infant Health Events

MO HealthNet is continuing to host additional in-person events across the state.

Upcoming sessions include:

- St. Louis — October 8
- Liberty — November 3
- Nixa — December 3
- Springfield — December 10
- Cape Girardeau — January 12