

March 7-10, 2026
Washington, DC

AMCHP 2026 | THE POWER OF CONNECTION



AMCHP 2026 Annual Conference Skills Building Sessions

The skills-building sessions day is offered at \$75 for the whole day, and you have the option to attend one session or two sessions (morning and afternoon).

This year, skills-building sessions focus on filling critical gaps in knowledge and skills identified by AMCHP Members and AMCHP 2025 Annual Conference Participants. Based on the conference evaluations and member input, this year's skill-building sessions emphasize implementation, working with Indigenous communities, data and evaluation, partnership, storytelling, and a strong policy focus.

Sessions can be selected by checking the box for "Skills Builders Registration" on the **Additional Options** page of conference registration – see below:



AMCHP 2026

Additional Options

☐	Youth Day	Complimentary
☐	MCH Epi Symposium	Complimentary
☐	Monuments by Moonlight Tour	\$45.00
☐	Monuments by Moonlight Tour - Wheelchair Accessible	\$45.00

This year we will be requiring separate registration for our Skills Builder sessions, if interested, your \$75 ticket includes access to a morning and afternoon session. **Please be aware that the Youth Day and MCH Symposium both conflict with the afternoon session block.**

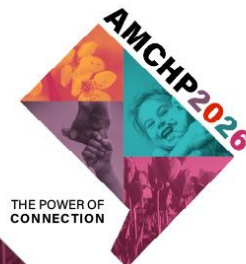
☒ **Skills Builders Registration** \$75.00

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Morning Block Sessions

Maternal Health Data 101

This three-hour session offers a beginner-friendly introduction to maternal health data grounded in the realities of systems, stories, and the broader maternal health ecosystem. Participants will explore key data sources used by public health professionals and partners to illuminate both the optimal maternal health ecosystem and also what's missing from our data sources. Together, we will explore how data can inspire the mental model shifts and system structures needed for real transformation.

From Policy to Practice: Engaging, influencing, and advocating for policies at all levels

This interactive skills-building session will be comprised of three segments: 1) Presenters will provide an overview of current federal policy initiatives spanning Congress, the Executive Branch, and the Judiciary Branch that have the potential to impact maternal and child health; 2) Attendees will get a deep dive on the multitude of ways to engage in policymaking using the Policy Engagement Framework for Public Health; and 3) Attendees will receive hands-on training and real-life examples of policy engagement in action.

*AMCHP attendees who are planning to participate in Hill Day are heavily encouraged to attend.

Supporting Families Affected by Perinatal Substance Use Disorder

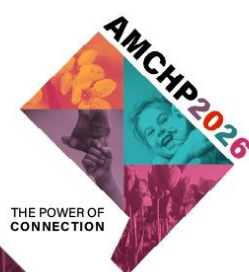
This session will highlight programs and practices across states that are effectively reaching families affected by substance use disorders. With a focus on initiation, sustainability, and recent barriers and opportunities for SUD interventions for MCH populations, this session will provide participants with a realistic and grounded picture of implementation efforts. Participants will also have the opportunity to connect with presenters after the meeting through designated office hours, ensuring that participants will leave the session with the knowledge, early connections, and opportunities for peer dialogue needed to explore what can be implemented in their own communities.

Turning Action Plans into Progress: A Systems-Informed Implementation Workshop

In the early stages of implementing their 5-year action plans, Title V programs are at a critical point to assess readiness, optimize impact, and strengthen the systems that support success. This interactive skill-builder guides participants through a systems-informed approach using an impact matrix to prioritize strategies for focused attention,

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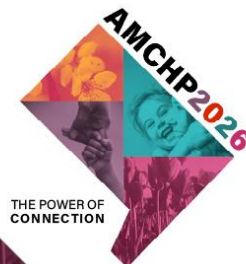
followed by the 5 R's framework to assess progress and adapt implementation. Through Title V-inspired case studies, participants will explore how well current resources, partnerships, policies, and supports align with their strategies, identifying high-leverage opportunities, and plan actionable next steps, leaving with practical tools to enhance implementation in their own context.

Stories for Change: Tools, methods, and everyday practices to weave community-based storytelling across MCH

Interested in incorporating storytelling into your work but don't know where to begin? Join this interactive skills building session to learn about community storytelling - what it is, the science of it, ethical practices and how stories can be used to build trust and inform MCH and other public health programs. Participants will have the opportunity to practice sharing stories and will leave with resources and examples to help support incorporating storytelling into their work and as a tool for change.

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Afternoon Block Sessions

Blazing A Path Forward: Building Capacity for Systems Change

Join us for an interactive skills builder session exploring how to leverage systems thinking principles and tools to tackle complex challenges facing MCH systems. Participants will learn about systems thinking principles, skills, and tools, as well as practice applying these concepts to a specific systems challenge effort of their own. Through this collaborative session, participants will have the opportunity to apply creative thinking while they map the current state of their system, identify leverage points for impact, and begin action planning for their envisioned future. This session will feature intensive guidance from systems thinking experts as well as peer learning opportunities, and will also explore examples of state-level systems change efforts related to improving state-level housing and food systems.

Practical Use of AI for Maternal and Child Health: Tools and Techniques

This session will equip public health professionals with practical skills and strategies to responsibly integrate AI tools into their daily work, with a focus on maternal and child health initiatives. Participants will learn about foundational AI concepts, look at different decision points for using AI, practice creating an AI assistant to support a task, and engage in a whole group discussion on successes, challenges, and wishes related to AI and their work.

From Awareness to Action: Engagement and Collaboration with Tribal Communities

This session will provide an overview of the history of Tribal communities, with examples of state and federal policies that continue to impact their experiences. Participants will gain a foundational understanding of Tribal sovereignty and explore practical approaches to building and sustaining partnerships with Tribal communities. Through interactive discussion and examples on Tribal collaborations within public health, attendees will leave better equipped to engage informed and respectfully.

Building Bridges with Private Funders: Etiquette and Opportunities for Public-Private Partnerships

This session explores how public-private partnerships in maternal and child health take root and thrive. State MCH leaders, philanthropic partners, and national collaborators will work together to unpack the “etiquette” of cross-sector partnership: building trust,

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navigating legal and procedural boundaries, meaningfully complementing each sector's strengths. Attendees will explore strategies, share their experiences, and offer insights that will inform future activities.