

Public Health: Integrating Maternal and Infant Services

Washtenaw County Board of Commissioners
Working Session
September 4, 2008



- Background
- Impetus for Change
- Benefits
- Barriers
- Impact of Change
- Next Steps and Timeline



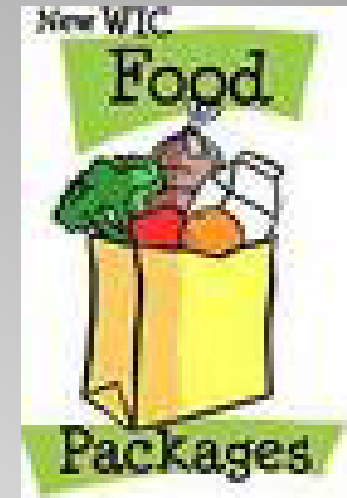
Presentation Overview



- **Maternal and Infant Health Program (MIHP)** services are specialized preventive services provided through home-visits to pregnant women, mothers, and their infants to help reduce infant deaths and illnesses and promote the best possible health
- Any pregnant woman or baby under 1 year old who is enrolled in Medicaid, Healthy Kids or MOMS may qualify for the MIHP
- **Women, Infants and Children (WIC)** is a federal health and nutrition program that has demonstrated a positive effect on pregnancy outcomes, child growth and development
- A family of four may earn \$37,000 per year and qualify for WIC services and nutritional supplements

Background

- WIC serves 5,000 women, infants and children a year
- One out of every two babies born in Michigan receives WIC benefits.
- Each family must come in for an appointment at least 4 times a year
- WIC foods are worth \$30-\$112 or more per month for each participant;
- over \$3.5 million WIC benefits are spent locally each year
- WIC participants receive help with nutrition education and breastfeeding, as well as referrals to other health services.
- The earlier a pregnant woman receives nutritional benefits from WIC, the more likely she is to seek prenatal care and deliver a normal weight infant.
- For every dollar spent by this program, more than three dollars in subsequent health care costs are saved.

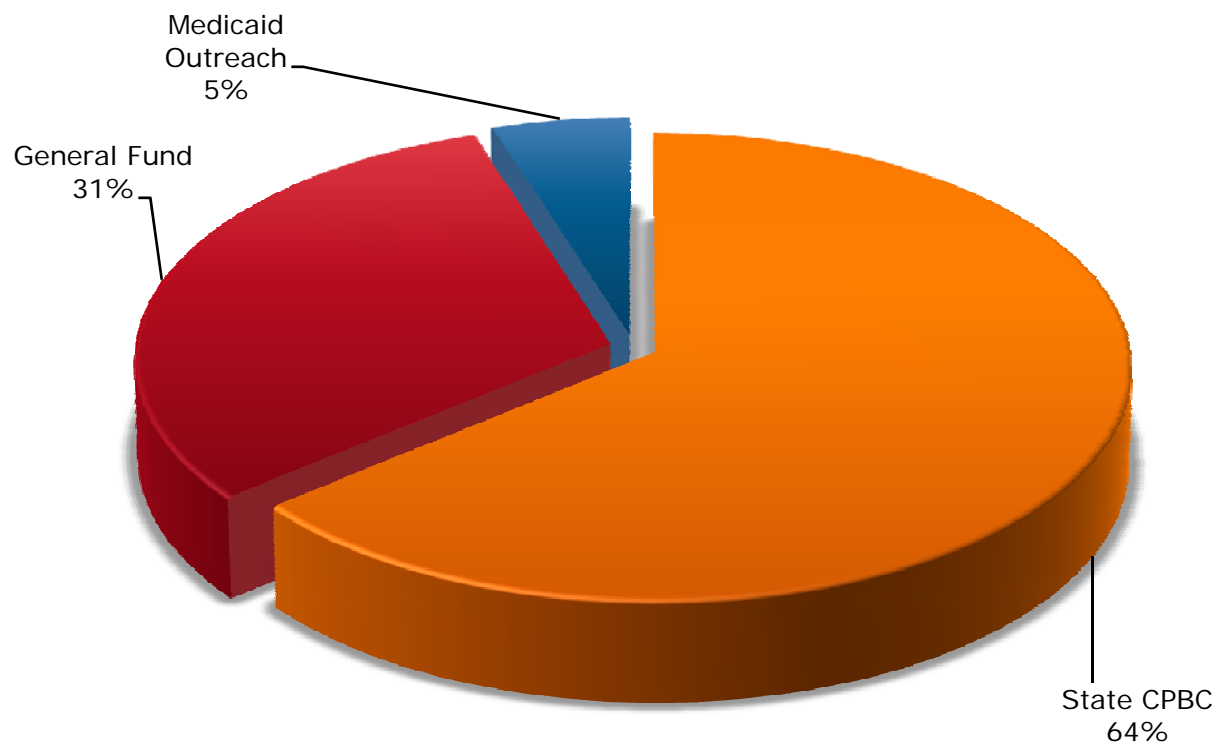


Background

- All MIHP families served are eligible for WIC
- Increasing numbers of families are eligible for both WIC and MIHP due to economic conditions
- Launch of MIWIC and EBT
- Reductions in local revenue
- Medicaid revenue "climate"
- MDCH encourages integration of MIHP/WIC to eliminate duplication of service
- Successful integrations have been demonstrated

Impetus for Change

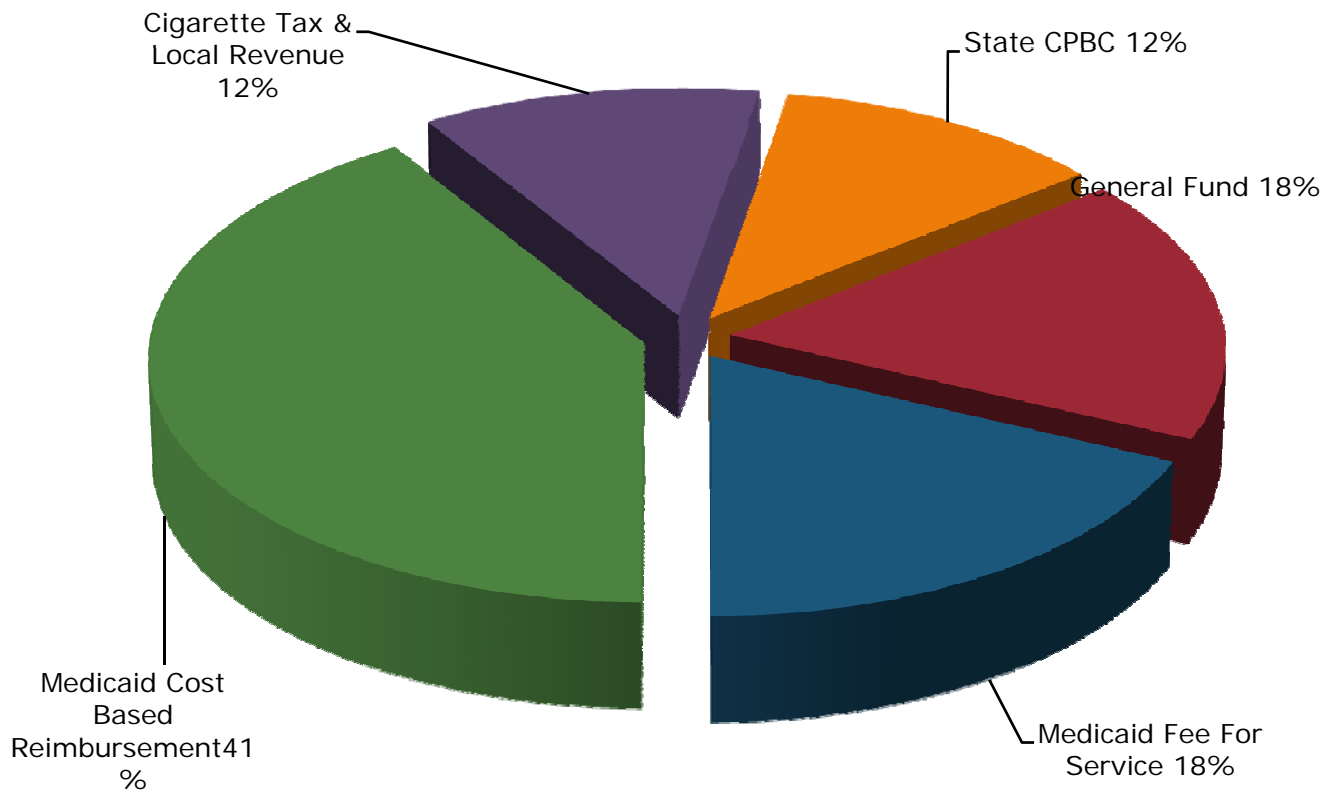
WIC Funding Sources



Total Budget \$1,052,021

9/4/2008

MIHP Funding Sources



Total Budget \$955,275

9/4/2008

- Add 60 WIC contacts per week
- Add 50 MIHP contacts per week
- Increase billable MIHP contacts by over 50%
- Reduce paperwork through integrated assessment process
- Reduce the number of appointments for clients
- Centralize appointment system
- Reduce client 'no-shows'
- Reduce staff travel time and costs

Benefits

- Space limitations at Towner clinic
- Unanticipated changes from state and federal oversight agencies
- Uncertain local funding beyond 2009

Barriers

- Position reclassifications
- Changes in management/supervision
- Reduce % local funding
- Increase % state funding

Other Impacts of Change

- October '08 begin pilot
- November '08 BoC resolution to finalize budget and personnel changes
- November – December '08 train all staff
- January/February '09 implement integration
- May/June '09 evaluate integration and modify as needed
- July '10 plan for 2010 and 2011 based on projected local and state funding
- 2010/2011 potential integration of immunizations and other services with WIC/MIHP

Next Steps and Timeline