Celebrating 2026 West Virginia Perinatal Summit



20 YEARS
2006-2026

West Virginia Perinatal PARTNERSHIP

Charleston Area Medical Center
Vandalia Health

Jointly sponsored educational activity provided through CAMC Institute.

Celebrating 20 years













As we celebrate the 20th anniversary of the West Virginia Perinatal Partnership, I am filled with tremendous pride and gratitude for all that has been accomplished together. Over the past two decades, healthcare providers, community partners, advocates, policymakers, and countless other champions have given their time, expertise, passion, and voices to a shared vision: improving the health and well-being of West Virginia's mothers and babies. The timeline on the following pages tells an extraordinary story of progress, but behind every milestone are people who believed change was possible and worked tirelessly to make it happen. I continue to be in awe of the dedication of our perinatal community and deeply grateful to everyone who has been part of this journey—and I am excited about what we will accomplish together in the next 20 years.

Amy N. Tolliver, MS
Executive Director
West Virginia Perinatal Partnership

Thank you to our Sponsors

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WVWA WEST VIRGINIA WOMEN'S ALLIANCE

GOLD LEARNING ONLINE EDUCATION

2026 West Virginia Perinatal Summit

November 5 – 6, 2026
Morgantown Marriott at
Waterfront Place
Morgantown, West Virginia

SUMMIT OVERVIEW

The 2026 WV Perinatal Summit brings together healthcare professionals, community partners, educators, and advocates to explore current issues and emerging practices in maternal and infant health. Local and nationally recognized faculty will share research, clinical expertise, and practical strategies to improve care and outcomes for West Virginia's mothers, babies, and families.

Celebrating 20 years of the West Virginia Perinatal Partnership, this year's Summit reflects on two decades of progress while looking ahead to the challenges and opportunities shaping the future of perinatal health. Through education, collaboration, and shared learning, participants will strengthen their knowledge and identify strategies to improve care across the perinatal continuum.

After completing this course, participants will be able to:

- Describe evidence-based approaches to improving maternal, neonatal, and reproductive health outcomes;
- Identify strategies for providing patient-centered, trauma-informed, and equitable perinatal care;
- Discuss how healthcare policy, legal considerations, and barriers to care affect maternal and infant health in West Virginia;
- Apply strategies for recognizing and responding to perinatal mental health concerns, substance use, intimate partner violence, and other complex patient needs;
- Identify multidisciplinary and community-based strategies to improve care, safety, and support for mothers, infants, and families; and
- Recognize opportunities for collaboration, innovation, and professional well-being that strengthen perinatal care across West Virginia.

DISCLOSURE AND MITIGATION

The CAMC Institute for Academic Medicine and the WV Perinatal Partnership control the content and production of this CE activity and attempt to ensure the presentation of balanced, objective information. In accordance with the Standards for Integrity and Independence in Accredited Continuing Education established by the ACCME, faculty, abstract reviewers, paper presenters/authors, planning committee members, staff and any others involved in planning the educational content must disclose any relationship they or their co-authors have with ineligible companies which may be related to their content. The ACCME defines "relevant financial relationships" as financial relationships in any amount occurring within the past 24 months that create a conflict of interest. All presenters, planning committee and faculty have declared no financial interest with an ineligible company for this educational activity.

COMFORT ZONE

Though every effort is made to have a comfortable temperature in the meeting rooms, we realize everyone's comfort zone is different. Therefore, please bring a sweater or light jacket in case the room is too cool for your comfort.

INTERNET ACCESS

Complimentary Wi-Fi is available throughout the conference center. Choose "Marriott_Conference" network in your WIFI settings.
Use passcode: access123

NURSING MOTHERS

A private lactation space is available for the convenience of conference attendees and exhibitors in the Mon River A Room. Please ask at the conference registration desk for key access.

JOINT PROVIDERSHIP STATEMENT

Physicians – Day 1, November 5, 2026: The CAMC Institute for Academic Medicine designates this live activity for a maximum of 5.5 AMA PRA Category 1 Credit(s) ™. Day 2, November 6, 2026: The CAMC Institute for Academic Medicine designates this live activity for a maximum of 5 AMA PRA Category 1Credit(s) ™. Physicians should only claim credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

Nurses – The CAMC Institute for Academic Medicine is an approved provider of continuing nursing education by the American Nurses Credentialing Center's Commission on Accreditation. Day 1, November 5, 2026: This offering has been approved for 5.5 contact hours (JA0026-26-CE1155). Day 2, November 6, 2026: This offering has been approved for 5 contact hours (JA0026-26-CE1156).

Pharmacists - The CAMC Institute for Academic Medicine is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education as a provider of continuing pharmacy education. To receive credit, participants must complete the sign-in sheet, attend each session and complete an evaluation. ACPE credits will be posted online to the CPE Monitor within six (6) weeks following the activity. Day 1, November 5, 2026: This knowledge-based activity provides 5.5 contact hours (JA0006133-9999-26-054-L99-P). Day 2, November 6, 2026: This knowledge -based activity provides 5 contact hours (JA0006133-9999-26-073-L99-P).

Psychologists - Continuing education credits for psychologists are provided through the co-sponsorship of the American Psychological Association (APA) Office of Continuing Education in Psychology (CEP). To receive credit, participants must complete the sign-in and sign-out sheets, attend each session and complete an evaluation. The APA CEP Office maintains responsibly for the content of the programs. The following credit hours are approved: The State of Perinatal Health in West Virginia: 20 Years of Progress and the Road Ahead (1.0 CE); What to Expect When You're Expecting Policy Change: Implications of Medicaid Policy Change for Maternal and Infant Health (1.0 CE); The Other 97% of the Day: Sitting Less, Moving More, and Pregnancy Health (1.0 CE); Understanding the Intersection of Intimate Partner Violence, Substance Use, and Mental Health (Part 1) (1.0 CE); Facilitating Parents' Lactation Journey Upon Return to Work and/or School (1.0 CE); The Loss of a Dream: Perinatal Bereavement (1.0 CE); Navigating Complex Pregnancy Care in West Virginia's Current Legal Environment (1.0 CE); Perinatal Mental Health Screenings: Aligning Patient Experience and Clinical Utility (0.5 CE).

Licensed Professional Counselors – The CAMC Institute for Academic Medicine is an approved provider by the West Virginia Board of Examiners in Counseling for LPC continuing education. The following credit hours are approved The State of Perinatal Health in West Virginia: 20 Years of Progress and the Road Ahead (1.0 CE); What to Expect When You're Expecting Policy Change: Implications of Medicaid Policy Change for Maternal and Infant Health (1.0 CE); Empty Arms (1.0 CE); Understanding the Intersection of Intimate Partner Violence, Substance Use, and Mental Health (1.0 CE); The Other 97% of the Day: Sitting Less, Moving More, and Pregnancy Health (0.5 CE); Perinatal Mental Health Screenings: Aligning Patient Experience and Clinical Utility (0.5 CE); A Case for a "Banana Bag"-- Wernicke's Encephalopathy in Hyperemesis Gravidarum (1.0 CE); Creating Informed & Empowered Experiences by Making Birth S.A.F.E.R. (1.5 CE); Compassion Fatigue (1.0 CE); Building the Village After Discharge – A Panel Discussion (1.0 CE); From Screening to Support—Trauma-Informed Responses to IPV and Coercion (Part 2) (1.0 CE); Understanding Neurodivergence in Pregnancy and Postpartum Care (1.0 CE); Carrying the Momentum: Our Path to the Next 20 Years (0.5 CE). Approved Provider # 603.

Social Workers – The CAMC Institute for Academic Medicine is an approved provider of continuing education by the West Virginia Board of Social Work Examiners. Day 1, November 5, 2026: This program has been approved for 5.5 hours of social work credit. Day 2, November 6, 2026: This program has been approved for 5 hours of social work credit. Approval #490045.

Addiction and Prevention Professionals – The CAMC Institute for Academic Medicine is an approved provider of continuing education by the WV Certification Board for Addiction and Prevention Professionals. The following credit hours are approved The Loss of a Dream: Perinatal Bereavement (1.0 CE); Invisible Grief: Supporting Moms with CPS Involvement (1.0 CE); Understanding the Intersection of Intimate Partner Violence, Substance Use, and Mental Health (Part 1) (1.0 CE); Building the Village After Discharge – A Panel Discussion (1.0 CE); From Screening to Support—Trauma-Informed Responses to IPV and Coercion (Part 2) (1.0 CE); Caring for the Tiniest Babies: Delivery Room Stabilization, Transport, and Early NICU Care for Infants <25 Weeks (1.0 CE). Day 1, November 5, 2026: This program has been approved for 1 contact hours. Day 2, November 6, 2026: This program has been approved for 1 contact hours. Approved Provider #AP-26-005.

Lactation Consultants

Milk is Medicine session has been approved for 1.0 LCERP (Domain I. Development and Nutrition)

Facilitating Parents Lactation Journey Upon Return to Work and/or School session has been approved for 1.0 LCERP (Domain V. Psychology,Sociology, and Anthropology)

The WV Breastfeeding Institute has been accepted by International Board of Lactation Consultant Examiners (IBLCE) as a Preferred Provider for the listed Continuing Education Recognition Points (CERPs) program. Determination of CERPs eligibility or Preferred Provider status does not imply IBLCE's endorsement or assessment of education quality. INTERNATIONAL BOARD OF LACTATION CONSULTANT EXAMINERS, IBLCE, INTERNATIONAL BOARD CERTIFIED LACTATION CONSULTANT, and IBCLC are registered marks of the International Board of Lactation Consultant Examiners.
IBLCE Verification Number C2026729

Verification Valid Until 11/4/2027

JOINTLY ACCREDITED PROVIDER™
INTERPROFESSIONAL CONTINUING EDUCATION

Charleston Area Medical Center
Vandalia Health

2026 West Virginia Perinatal Summit

NOVEMBER 5 – 6, 2026

Thursday, November 5

7:30 am – 8:30 am

MEC Lobby

Registration/Networking and Breakfast

8:30 am – 9:30 am

Platinum Ballroom

The State of Perinatal Health in West Virginia: 20 Years of Progress and the Road Ahead

This presentation combines the latest birth and health outcome data with a retrospective look at the West Virginia Perinatal Partnership's first 20 years. Discover how statewide collaboration, evidence-based initiatives, and quality improvement have driven measurable progress in perinatal care—and explore the key challenges and opportunities shaping the future of maternal and infant health.

Amy N. Tolliver, MS
Executive Director
West Virginia Perinatal Partnership
Charleston, WV

Kimberly M. Farry, MD, FACOG
Board Chair and Central Advisory Council Chair
West Virginia Perinatal Partnership
Assistant Professor
Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology, and Reproductive Sciences
West Virginia University School of Medicine
Buckhannon, WV

Celebrating 20 Years of Improving Maternal and Infant Health

2006

- Benedum Foundation funds WV Perinatal Wellness Study, leading to establishment of WV Perinatal Partnership.
- First statewide gathering of perinatal providers and stakeholders is hosted at the Governor's Mansion.
- Senate Resolution #27 promotes statewide Key Informant Study on Perinatal Wellness, sparking the *Blueprint to Improve WV Perinatal Health,* and inaugural Perinatal Wellness Summit.

2007

- HB 2583 expands newborn screening for metabolic and genetic conditions.
- Rural maternity care needs and provider shortages are identified.
- Lactation education is provided to obstetrical nurses and healthcare professionals.
- Committee on Guidelines for Perinatal Care recommends establishment of a statewide Central Advisory Council.
- Hospital Guidelines and Levels of Care Self-Assessment Initiative is developed.
- Perinatal Transport Subcommittee recommends transport improvements, outreach education, and NICU "One Call System."
- Committee studies cesarean rates among first-time mothers.
- Oral Health Committee explores improvements in maternal oral health.

Thursday

9:30 am – 10:30 am

Platinum Ballroom

What to Expect When You're Expecting Policy Change: Implications of Medicaid Policy Change for Maternal and Infant Health

The One Big Beautiful Bill Act enacted sweeping changes to Medicaid financing and eligibility that will have implications for coverage during the perinatal period and for the health care systems that families rely on for support. This talk will review the major changes coming to West Virginia Medicaid, including expected impacts on moms, babies, and families, and highlight opportunities to mitigate harm.

Stephanie Glier, MPH
Senior Director, Federal Advocacy
American Academy of Pediatrics
Washington, D.C.

10:30 am – 11:00 am

MEC Lobby

Break, Exhibit Visitation & Networking

11:00 am – 12:00 pm

Platinum Ballroom

Milk is Medicine

This session will explore the powerful impact of human milk for the prevention of morbidity and mortality. Methods for sharing the science of human milk with families so that all families can make an informed feeding choice will be discussed. The presentation will also highlight how the state of milk (fresh, frozen, pasteurized) can impact vital components of human milk.

Diane Spatz, PhD, RN-BC, FAWHONN, FAAN
Professor of Perinatal Nursing
University of Pennsylvania School of Nursing
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

12:00 pm – 1:00 pm

Platinum Ballroom

Lunch

1:00 pm - 1:15 pm

Transition to Breakout Sessions

1:15 pm – 2:15 pm

BREAKOUT SESSIONS

↘Breakout 1: Salon C

Empty Arms

This breakout session addresses the complex emotional landscape and unique challenges faced when patients leave the hospital with empty arms.

The Loss of a Dream: Perinatal Bereavement

This presentation will explore the complicating factors of early pregnancy loss and how they impact the grieving process for parents. Ways that providers can help parents explore those feelings will be examined and discussed.

Elizabeth Cohen, MSW, LICSW, PMH-C
Consultant
West Virginia Perinatal Partnership
Morgantown, West Virginia

Celebrating 20 Years of Improving Maternal and Infant Health

2008

- SB 234 establishes the Maternal Mortality Review Team.
- Telecommunications Committee develops telehealth links between rural facilities and tertiary care specialists.

2009

- Landmark Umbilical Cord Tissue Study finds 19% of WV newborns exposed to substances in utero.
- Uniform Maternal Screening Act, SB 307, establishes standardized assessment for identifying high-risk pregnancies.
- Statewide NICU capacity study is launched.
- Statewide Perinatal Outreach Education Project is launched.
- Quality improvement initiative to reduce elective deliveries before 39 weeks is launched.
- Teen pregnancy study is conducted.

Invisible Grief: Supporting Moms with CPS Involvement

Postpartum patients whose infants have been placed in the care of Child Protective Services (CPS) due to substance use during pregnancy may experience profound grief, shame, fear, and loss—emotions that can significantly increase the risk of substance use recurrence, overdose, and suicide.

This session explores the critical role healthcare professionals play in recognizing these vulnerabilities and responding with compassionate, trauma-informed care.

Cara DeAngelis, MPA
Project Coordinator, Substance Use During Pregnancy Initiative
West Virginia Perinatal Partnership
Charleston, West Virginia

↘Breakout 2: Salon D

Understanding the Intersection of Intimate Partner Violence, Substance Use, and Mental Health (Part 1)

Intimate partner violence (IPV) has profound effects on health and well-being and frequently intersects with substance use and mental health concerns. This session will explore the complex relationship among these issues. This session provides the framework for the practical strategies and application-focused discussions presented in Part 2 during Friday's breakout session.

Kelly Lemon, MSN, CNM, WHNP, FACNM
Faculty Instructor
West Virginia University School of Nursing
Morgantown, WV

↘Breakout 3: Salon E

Facilitating Parents' Lactation Journey Upon Return to Work and/or School

This session will focus on evidence-based strategies to support families who must return to work and/or school while continuing their lactation journeys. Research findings and employee lactation program strategies with proven outcomes will be shared. A review of the Providing Urgent Maternal Protections for Nursing Mothers (PUMP) Act will be included.

Diane Spatz, PhD, RN-BC, FAWHONN, FAAN
Professor of Perinatal Nursing
University of Pennsylvania School of Nursing
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

↘Breakout 4: Salon F

Navigating Complex Pregnancy Care in West Virginia's Current Legal Environment

As reproductive healthcare laws continue to shape clinical practice, healthcare providers face new considerations when caring for patients with high-risk and medically complicated pregnancies. This presentation will examine how West Virginia Code §16-2R "Unborn Child Protection Act" affects the management of medically complicated pregnancies and its implications for obstetric care, maternal-fetal medicine, emergency care, and interdisciplinary collaboration. Through clinical scenarios and discussion, this session is designed to encourage participants to explore approaches for providing evidence-based, patient-centered care while navigating legal requirements, ethical considerations, and shared decision-making.

Celebrating 20 Years of Improving Maternal and Infant Health

2010

- Statewide implementation of the Prenatal Risk Screening Instrument begins.
- Connect to Care Perinatal Telehealth Project expands telehealth; advisory board is established.
- Perinatal workforce study identifies gaps in care and recommends priorities.
- Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome Toolkit is developed.
- State budget establishes funding for a "permanent home" for the WV Perinatal Partnership under the WV Higher Education Policy Commission.
- *Sexuality Education in Public Schools* report is published.
- *Estimation of Potential Economization from Quality Initiatives Related to Perinatal Antenatal Care Options* is released.

Leo R. Brancazio, MD, FACOG-MFM
Professor
Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology, and Reproductive Sciences
West Virginia University School of Medicine
Morgantown, West Virginia

↘Breakout 5: Wharf A & B

Escape Rooms

Escape rooms are an innovative trend in simulation using puzzles and games to teach and evaluate clinical knowledge, teamwork, and collaboration. Participants in this breakout will be divided into two groups and each group will complete a neonatal and maternal escape room during the session. The escape rooms are appropriate for nurses, midwives, nurse practitioners, physician assistants, and physicians.

Group 1:
Neonatal Hypoglycemia and Maternal Sepsis

Group 2:
Neonatal Sepsis and Maternal Cardiomyopathy

Stacie Allen, MSN, RNC-OB, C-EFM, IBCLC, LCCE
Manager of Women's and Children's Services
Labor & Delivery and Mother-Baby
WVU Medicine Thomas Memorial Hospital
South Charleston, WV

Robin Betler, BSN, RNC-OB
Birthing Center Manager
WVU Medicine Golisano Children's Hospital
Morgantown, WV

Kelly Dowe, APRN, CNP, RNC-OB, C-EFM
Nurse Practitioner
Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology
WVU Medicine
Martinsburg, WV

Mandy Stoffel, RNC-OB, C-EFM
Clinical Management Coordinator
Teays Valley Obstetrics and Gynecology Center
Vandalia Health
Teays Valley, WV

2:15 pm - 2:45 pm

MEC Lobby

Break, Exhibit Visitation & Networking

2:45 pm - 3:15 pm

Platinum Ballroom

The Other 97% of the Day: Sitting Less, Moving More, and Pregnancy Health

This presentation will begin by reviewing historical and current recommendations for exercise during pregnancy and describing how even people who exercise may spend most of their day sitting. Findings from the Pregnancy 24/7 cohort study—which included participants from West Virginia and was recently published in the *Journal of American Medical Association*—demonstrate that excessive sitting doubled the risk of adverse pregnancy outcomes, including preeclampsia, gestational hypertension, and gestational diabetes. Practical strategies for reducing sedentary behavior, particularly during pregnancy will be discussed.

Celebrating 20 Years of Improving Maternal and Infant Health

2011

- First Baby Quality Initiative launches to reduce primary cesarean births.
- Drug Free Moms and Babies (DFMB) Pilot Project is funded.
- Maternal Mortality Review expands to include Infant Mortality Review.
- NICU beds increase following study recommendations to the WV Health Care Authority.
- Maternity Care Provider Shortages Committee leads to expanded Certified Nurse Midwifery education opportunities.
- *Teen Pregnancy and Childbearing in WV* report is released.

2012

- Second Key Informant Survey identifies substance use in pregnancy as a leading concern.
- WV Rural Maternal Child Health Fellowship Pilot expands perinatal training for family physicians.
- HB 4327 requires pulse oximetry screening for every newborn in WV birthing facilities.

2013

- Medical guidelines for screening and identifying substance use during pregnancy are issued.
- *Teen Pregnancy and Childbearing in WV* report is updated and re-released.

Bethany Barone Gibbs, PhD
Professor & Chair
Department of Epidemiology & Biostatistics
West Virginia University School of Public Health
Morgantown, West Virginia

3:15 pm - 3:45 pm

Platinum Ballroom

Perinatal Mental Health Screenings: Aligning Patient Experience and Clinical Utility

This presentation will explore how to bridge the critical gap between obtaining reliable clinical data and providing a respectful, trauma-informed care experience for perinatal individuals. Pivotal updates developed and validated to modernize the perinatal mental health (PMH) screening process will be discussed. This session will demonstrate how aligning psychometrically sound screening instruments with the patient screening experience may facilitate open clinical conversations, lead to earlier symptom recognition, and empower a person-centered, holistic approach to PMH screening.

Sarah W. Moyer, PhD, RN
Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Family and Community Health Nursing
Virginia Commonwealth University
Richmond, Virginia

3:45 pm - 4:45 pm

Platinum Ballroom

A Case for a "Banana Bag"... Wernicke's Encephalopathy in Hyperemesis Gravidarum

Nausea and vomiting are common symptoms in the first trimester of pregnancy and they can often be trivialized. This presentation will describe the case of a Haitian patient with severe hyperemesis gravidarum, and how language barriers and/or implicit bias may have delayed diagnosis and led to the development of Wernicke's encephalopathy. Evidence-based treatment regimens for hyperemesis gravidarum will be reviewed in order to decrease symptoms, optimize nutritional status, and potentially prevent negative neurological impact.

Brian Casey, MD
Professor & Chair
Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology and Reproductive Sciences
West Virginia University School of Medicine
Morgantown, West Virginia

Maureen Schmitt, RNC-OB
High Risk Maternal Nurse Specialist (retired)
WVU Medicine Golisano Children's Hospital
Morgantown, West Virginia

5:00 pm - 6:00 pm

MEC Lobby

Birth Vibes with Jen Hamilton

Wrap up Day 1 of the Summit by meeting special guest Jen Hamilton before the evening reception. Browse her book, *Birth Vibes*, and purchase a signed copy ahead of her keynote presentation on Day 2. Don't miss this exclusive opportunity to connect with one of the Summit's featured speakers.

6:00 pm - 7:00 pm

MEC Lobby

Reception

Celebrating 20 Years of Improving Maternal and Infant Health

2014

- HB 4335 establishes a Child's Right to Nurse in locations open to the public.
- Help2Quit Project provides smoking cessation training and resources to perinatal providers.
- Kangaroo Care and Skin-to-Skin Initiative promotes immediate maternal-infant bonding.
- Statewide definition for Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome diagnosis is standardized.
- Safety in Obstetrical Care initiative launches, targeting hemorrhage and preeclampsia.

2015

- Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome education reaches all WV birthing hospitals.
- Fetal Heart Rate Monitoring education is offered statewide.
- Critical Congenital Heart Disease Quality Initiative is implemented.

2016

- WV Perinatal Payers Workgroup is formed to explore strategies to improve quality and reduce costs.
- Safety in Obstetrical Care training expands to hospitals statewide.

Thursday

7:00 pm - 9:00 pm

Platinum Ballroom

20th Anniversary Celebration Banquet

Join us for a special evening as we celebrate 20 years of improving the health and well-being of West Virginia's mothers and babies. This commemorative banquet will honor the dedicated healthcare professionals, partners, and champions whose collaboration has transformed perinatal care across the state while looking ahead to the next generation of innovation and impact. The evening will feature a special appearance and inspiring remarks by nationally recognized labor and delivery nurse and social media educator Jen Hamilton, along with special recognitions and opportunities to reconnect with colleagues and friends.

9:00 pm - 11:00 pm

Platinum Foyer

The After Party!

The celebration doesn't end with dinner! Join us for music, dancing, photo booths, and a lot of fun as we celebrate 20 years of collaboration, friendship, and improving the lives of West Virginia's mothers and babies. Reconnect with colleagues, make new memories, and help us toast the next 20 years of the West Virginia Perinatal Partnership.

Friday

Friday, November 6, 2026

8:00 am - 9:00 am

MEC Lobby

Registration, Networking and Breakfast

9:00 am - 10:30 am

Platinum Ballroom

Creating Informed & Empowered Experiences by Making Birth S.A.F.E.R.

After polling her online audience of over 6 million, Jen Hamilton found that most birth trauma could be prevented by making birth S.A.F.E.R., an acronym created by Hamilton to help clinicians easily remember how to mitigate birth trauma. In this engaging and empowering presentation, Jen shares the 6 promises she gives her patients, stories and strategies for empowering your patients through their birthing experience, and how to speak up and advocate for your patients, all communicated in her notoriously easy-going, humorous, and engaging style.

Jen Hamilton, BSN, RN, CEN, RNC-OB

Labor & Delivery
Greensboro, North Carolina

10:30 am

Platinum Terrace

Group Photo

Join fellow attendees for our annual Summit group photo as we capture this year's gathering and celebrate our shared commitment to improving the health and well-being of West Virginia's mothers, babies and families.

Celebrating 20 Years of Improving Maternal and Infant Health

2017

- "Zika – Fight the Bite!" education and prevention initiative is launched.
- WV Perinatal Partnership assumes leadership and administration of the WV Breastfeeding Alliance.
- Inaugural WV Perinatal Nursing Leadership Conference is hosted.
- Outreach education expands to offer ALSO, STABLE, and immediate postpartum LARC trainings.
- Partnership joins AIM and initiates the Obstetric Hemorrhage Patient Safety Bundle.

2018

- 100% of WV birthing hospitals "Ban the Bags," eliminating commercial formula marketing.
- Love Your Birth Control Program launches statewide.
- POST-BIRTH Warning Signs Initiative is implemented statewide.
- DFMB scales up and expands beyond the pilot phase.
- Bereavement Project strengthens nurses' capacity to support families experiencing perinatal loss.

10:40 am - 11:00 am

MEC Lobby

Break, Exhibit Visitation & Networking

11:00 am - 12:00 pm

Platinum Ballroom

Compassion Fatigue

In their varied critical roles, healthcare providers are potentially subject not only to physical fatigue, but also psychological fatigue. This type of fatigue can entail emotionally relevant stress among healthcare workers, borne of their compassion in serving their patients and communities; this particular type of fatigue is known as compassion fatigue. This presentation will define compassion fatigue, its relevance to healthcare workers and how it can manifest and be managed in healthcare providers.

Daniel Barnett, MD, MPH

Professor
Department of Environmental Health and Engineering
Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health
Baltimore, Maryland

12:00 pm - 1:00 pm

Platinum Ballroom

Lunch & Door Prizes

1:00 pm - 1:15 pm

Transition to Breakout Sessions

1:15 pm - 2:15 pm

BREAKOUT SESSIONS

↘Breakout 1: Salon C

Building the Village After Discharge – A Panel Discussion

This session explores the transition of the family from birth to the postpartum period. Establishing connections to resources and support is critical for families settling in with a new baby. Knowing who can answer questions, provide breastfeeding support, and assist with finding social support really does "Take a Village!" Hear from a panel of community support professionals to help your clients meet their post discharge needs.

Moderator:
Annie White-Barb, RN, LCCE, CD (DONA), PMH-C, SpBCPE
Community Health Programs Director
Doula Project Coordinator
West Virginia Perinatal Partnership
Lewisburg, WV

Panelists:
Maureen Farrell, CPM, CLC
Owner of Highland Birth Support
Elkins, West Virginia

Jodi McQuillan, MSW, LGSW
Community Coordinator
WV Healthy Start/HAPI (Helping Appalachian Parents and Infants) Project
Morgantown, West Virginia

Celebrating 20 Years of Improving Maternal and Infant Health

2019

- WV Perinatal Partnership incorporates as an independent 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.
- Pay for Success financing model is explored to sustain DFMB Program.

2020

- COVID-19 pandemic reshapes lives across West Virginia.
- CDC LOCATe Assessment identifies maternal and pediatric levels of care statewide.
- WV RCORP NAS Project launches in three rural counties impacted by the opioid epidemic.

Christyn Rodeheaver, CBS, CD, CPST, PMH-C
WIC Liaison to WVU Medicine Golisano Children's Hospital
Monongalia County Health Department
Morgantown, West Virginia

Alyssa Murphy
Certified MEGI High-Risk Doula, PAILAdvocate®, LATCH Leader
Certified High-Risk Doula & Maternal Health Advocate
Parkersburg, West Virginia

↘Breakout 2: Salon D

From Screening to Support—Trauma-Informed Responses to IPV and Coercion (Part 2)

Building on the foundation established in Part 1, this session focuses on translating knowledge into meaningful action. Participants will explore practical strategies for moving beyond screening to engage individuals experiencing intimate partner violence, substance use concerns, mental health challenges, and coercion in safe, supportive, and trauma-informed conversations.

Kelly Lemon, MSN, CNM, WHNP, FACNM
Faculty Instructor
West Virginia University School of Nursing
Morgantown, WV

↘Breakout 3: Salon E

Caring for the Tiniest Babies: Delivery Room Stabilization, Transport, and Early NICU Care for Infants <25 Weeks

This session will focus on practical, team-based approaches to the care of infants born at less than 25 weeks' gestation, from prenatal and delivery-room preparation through early stabilization, NICU transition, transport readiness, and the first 24–72 hours of life. Emphasis will be placed on multidisciplinary communication, thermoregulation, respiratory and hemodynamic support, vascular access, family communication, and common early-care pitfalls for infants <25 weeks gestation.

Mahmoud Ali, MD, MSc, FAAP
Assistant Professor
Department of Pediatrics
WVU Medicine Golisano Children's Hospital
Morgantown, West Virginia

Kelsey Haarbauer, MD
Assistant Professor
Department of Pediatrics
WVU Medicine Golisano Children's Hospital
Morgantown, West Virginia

Joseph Schmidhofer, MD
Assistant Professor
Department of Pediatrics
WVU Medicine Golisano Children's Hospital
Morgantown, West Virginia

↘Breakout 4: Salon F

Empowering Women Through Access, Knowledge and Choice

This breakout session will explore the issues related to contraceptive counseling, including bias, inequitable care, and harmful practices that have influenced the way women are provided contraception.

Celebrating 20 Years of Improving Maternal and Infant Health

2021
- WV RMOMS launches to improve maternal and neonatal healthcare in eight rural counties.
- AIM Severe Hypertension in Pregnancy Patient Safety Bundle is launched.
- WV Breastfeeding Institute is established.

2022
- Doula Project is initiated to expand West Virginia's doula workforce.
- CDC Perinatal Quality Collaborative QI Capacity-Building Initiative is funded.
- DFMB achieves a long-term goal of affiliation with every WV birthing hospital.

My Decision/Mi Decision: A decision aid for patients considering tubal sterilization

My Decision/Mi Decisión is a free, web-based decision aid for people considering tubal sterilization. In a randomized controlled trial, it significantly improved knowledge and reduced decisional conflict about tubal sterilization compared to usual care alone. This presentation will demonstrate how My Decision/Mi Decisión can support West Virginia patients in making informed decisions about permanent contraception.

Michaella Wu, MPH
Research Coordinator
University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine
CONVERGE
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Contraceptive Care Without Bias or Judgment to Improve Access

This presentation will address current practices that impede providing equitable and appropriate care, and how education for women and providers can help reduce the risk of coercive practices and explore innovative models for improving access to contraceptive care.

Sarah Dotson, MD, MPH
Associate Professor
Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology, and Reproductive Sciences
West Virginia University School of Medicine
Morgantown, West Virginia

↘Breakout 5: Wharf A & B

Escape Rooms

Escape rooms are an innovative trend in simulation using puzzles and games to teach and evaluate clinical knowledge, teamwork, and collaboration. Participants in this breakout will be divided into two groups and each group will complete a neonatal and maternal escape room during the session. The escape rooms are appropriate for nurses, midwives, nurse practitioners, and physicians.

Group 1:
Neonatal Hypoglycemia and Maternal Sepsis

Group 2:
Neonatal Sepsis and Maternal Cardiomyopathy

Stacie Allen, MSN, RNC-OB, C-EFM, IBCLC, LCCE
Manager of Women's and Children's Services
Labor & Delivery and Mother-Baby
WVU Medicine Thomas Memorial Hospital
South Charleston, WV

Robin Betler, BSN, RNC-OB
Birthing Center Manager
WVU Medicine Golisano Children's Hospital
Morgantown, WV

Kelly Dowe, APRN, CNP, RNC-OB, C-EFM
Nurse Practitioner
Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology
WVU Medicine
Martinsburg, WV

Mandy Stoffel, RNC-OB, C-EFM
Clinical Management Coordinator
Teays Valley Obstetrics and Gynecology Center
Vandalia Health
Teays Valley, WV

2:15 pm - 2:30 pm

Transition to Main Session

2:30 pm - 3:30 pm

Platinum Ballroom

Understanding Neurodivergence in Pregnancy and Postpartum Care

Neurodivergent individuals often experience pregnancy, birth, and postpartum recovery in ways that standard clinical models don't fully capture, which can impact both screening accuracy and the quality of care they receive. This session offers practical, provider-focused insight into recognizing neurodivergent presentations in patients and delivering more informed, individualized support throughout the perinatal period.

TaKiesha Smith, CD (DONA) CBS, CLC, CCHW
Owner & Founder
Neuro Spicy Birth
Fishers, Indiana

3:30 pm - 4:00 pm

Platinum Ballroom

Carrying the Momentum: Our Path to the Next 20 Years

Kimberly M. Farry, MD, FACOG
Board Chair and Chairperson, Central Advisory Council
West Virginia Perinatal Partnership
Assistant Professor
Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology, and Reproductive Sciences
West Virginia University School of Medicine
Buckhannon, WV 2022



Celebrating 20 Years of Improving Maternal and Infant Health

2025

- Help2Quit expands cessation services and support for pregnant women using nicotine products.
- CMS Transforming Maternal Health Model launches with WV Medicaid and WV Public Health.
- Hypertension Remote Patient Monitoring Project is launched.

2026

- WV Perinatal Psychiatric Access Program launches real-time consultation for frontline providers.
- *MyDecision* launches to support reproductive autonomy and informed consent for sterilization.
- GRACE Study explores labor induction and expectant management to mitigate geographic risk for rural pregnant populations.

Celebrating 20 years
West Virginia Perinatal Summit 2026



Mahmoud Ali, MD, MSc, FAAP
Caring for the Tiniest Babies: Delivery Room Stabilization, Transport, and Early NICU Care for Infants <25 Weeks



Stacie Allen, MSN, RNC-OB, C-EFM, IBCLC, LCCE
Escape Room



Daniel Barnett, MD, MPH
Compassion Fatigue



Robin Betler, BSN, RNC-OB
Escape Room



Leo R. Brancazio, MD, FACOG-MFM
Navigating Complex Pregnancy Care in West Virginia's Current Legal Environment



Brian Casey, MD
A Case for a "Banana Bag"... Wernicke's Encephalopathy in Hyperemesis Gravidarum



Elizabeth Cohen, MSW, LICSW, PMH-C
The Loss of a Dream: Perinatal Bereavement



Cara DeAngelis, MPA
Invisible Grief: Supporting Moms with CPS Involvement



Sarah Dotson, MD, MPH
Contraceptive Care Without Bias or Judgment to Improve Access



Kelly Dowe, APRN, CNP, RNC-OB, C-EFM
Escape Room



Kimberly M. Farry, MD, FACOG
The State of Perinatal Health in West Virginia: 20 Years of Progress and the Road Ahead

Carrying the Momentum: Our Path to the Next 20 Years



Maureen Farrell, CPM, CLC
Building the Village After Discharge – A Panel Discussion



Bethany Barone Gibbs, PhD
The Other 97% of the Day: Sitting Less, Moving More, and Pregnancy Health



Stephanie Glier, MPH
What to Expect When You're Expecting Policy Change: Implications of Medicaid Policy Change for Maternal and Infant Health



Kelsey Haarbauer, MD
Caring for the Tiniest Babies: Delivery Room Stabilization, Transport, and Early NICU Care for Infants <25 Weeks

Speakers

Celebrating 20 years
West Virginia Perinatal Summit 2026



Jen Hamilton, BSN, RN, CEN, RNC-OB
Creating Informed & Empowered Experiences by Making Birth S.A.F.E.R.



Kelly Lemon, MSN, CNM, WHNP, FACNM
Understanding the Intersection of Intimate Partner Violence, Substance Use, and Mental Health



Jodi McQuillan, MSW, LGSW
Building the Village After Discharge – A Panel Discussion



Sarah W. Moyer, PhD, RN
Perinatal Mental Health Screenings: Aligning Patient Experience and Clinical Utility



Alyssa Murphy
Building the Village After Discharge – A Panel Discussion



Christyn Rodeheaver, CBS, CD, CPST, PMH-C
Building the Village After Discharge – A Panel Discussion



Joseph Schmidhofer, MD
Caring for the Tiniest Babies: Delivery Room Stabilization, Transport, and Early NICU Care for Infants <25 Weeks



Maureen Schmitt, RNC-OB
A Case for a "Banana Bag"... Wernicke's Encephalopathy in Hyperemesis Gravidarum



TaKiesha Smith, CD (DONA) CBS, CLC, CCHW
Understanding Neurodivergence in Pregnancy and Postpartum Care



Diane Spatz, PhD, RN-BC, FAWHONN, FAAN
Milk is Medicine
Facilitating Parents' Lactation Journey Upon Return to Work and/or School



Mandy Stoffel, RNC-OB, C-EFM
Escape Room



Amy N. Tolliver, MS
The State of Perinatal Health in West Virginia: 20 Years of Progress and the Road Ahead



Annie White-Barb, RN, LCCE, CD (DONA), PMH-C, SpBCPE
Building the Village After Discharge – A Panel Discussion

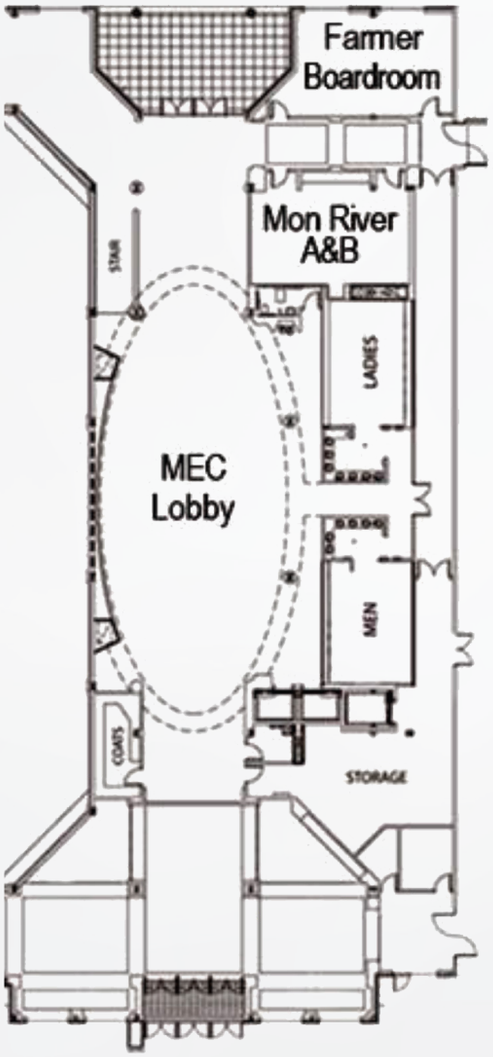


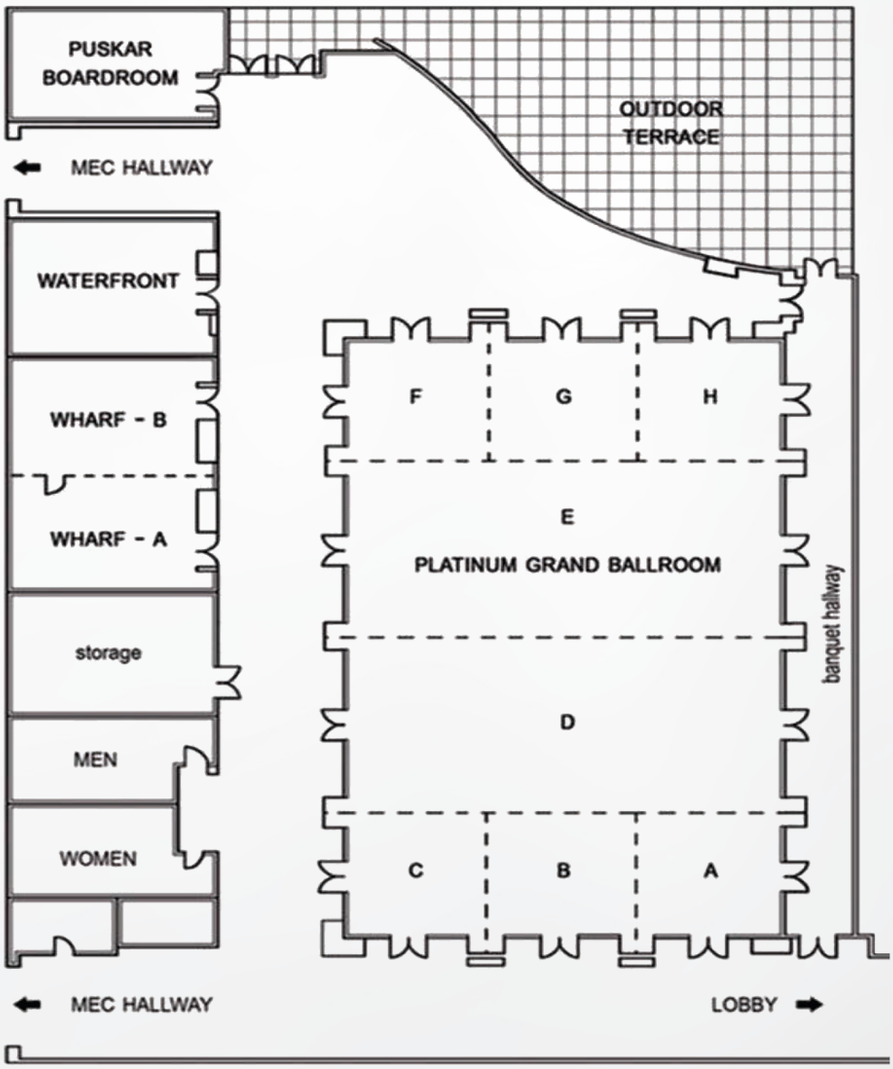
Michaella Wu, MPH
My Decision/Mi Decision: A Decision Aid for Patients Considering Tubal Sterilization

Speaker Bios

Scan to learn more about our speakers!

Event Center Floorplan







Celebrating 20 Years of Improving Maternal and Infant Health

Evaluation

Your opinion matters!
Please complete our online evaluation to obtain your CME/CE credits and let us know what you liked, what you loved, what you could do without, as well as what you would like to hear more about next year.

Day 1 Evaluation

https://bit.ly/Summit2026-1

Day 2 Evaluation

https://bit.ly/Summit2026-2

West Virginia Perinatal PARTNERSHIP

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