

Quality Improvement Fund-Maternal Health

Innovations Update: October 2024



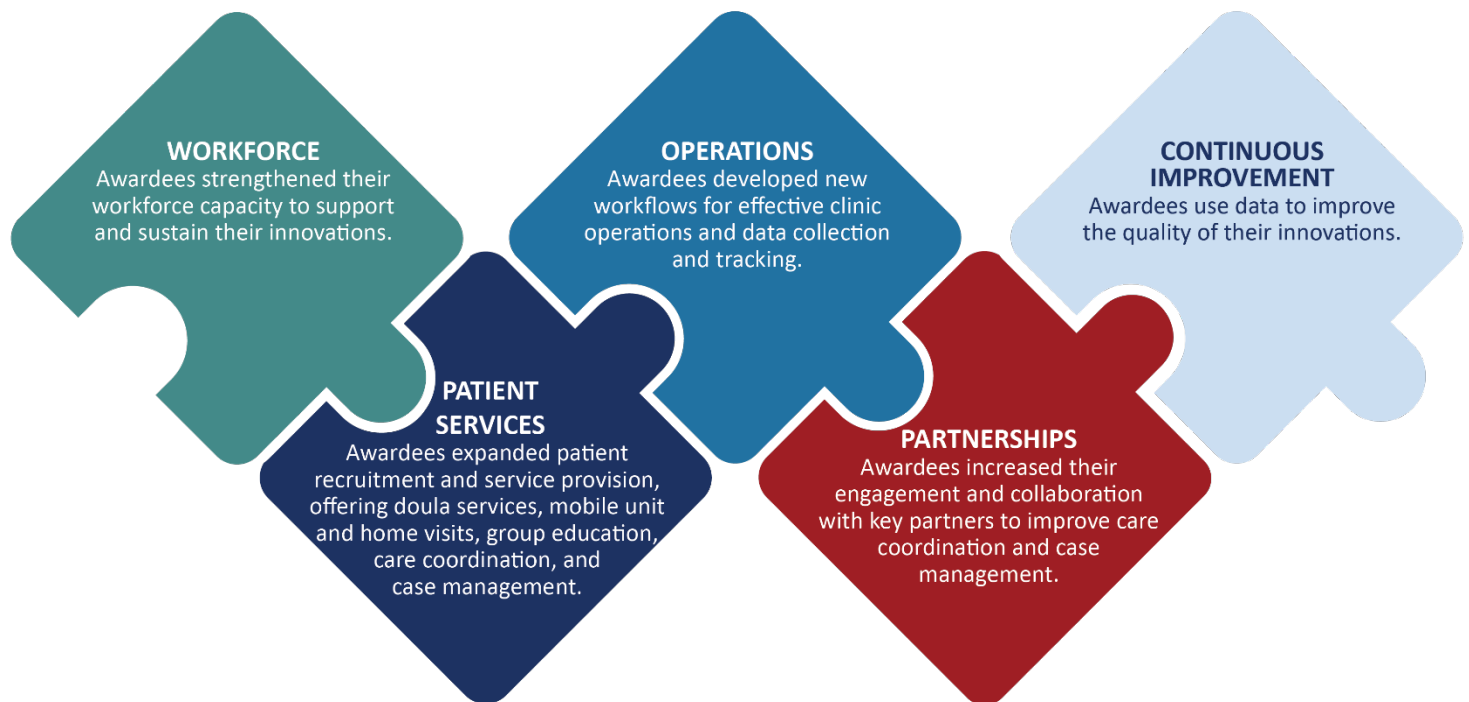
Reporting Period 2: December 1, 2023 – May 31, 2024



The Quality Improvement Fund-Maternal Health (QIF-MH) is a two-year grant program that supports 36 HRSA-funded health centers to pilot innovative, patient-centered, sustainable, and scalable models of care delivery that improve maternal health outcomes and reduce disparities for patients at highest risk. Learn more on BPHC's [QIF Innovation and Quality Improvement webpage](#).

Implementation Journey

During the first year of the grant, awardees successfully implemented their innovations and increased their effectiveness in key areas.



Notable Success: Health-Related Social Needs

Unmet health-related social needs such as food insecurity and unstable housing can jeopardize the health of pregnant and parenting individuals. Screening for and addressing these needs is critical to improving maternal health outcomes and reducing disparities among those most at risk of maternal morbidity and mortality.

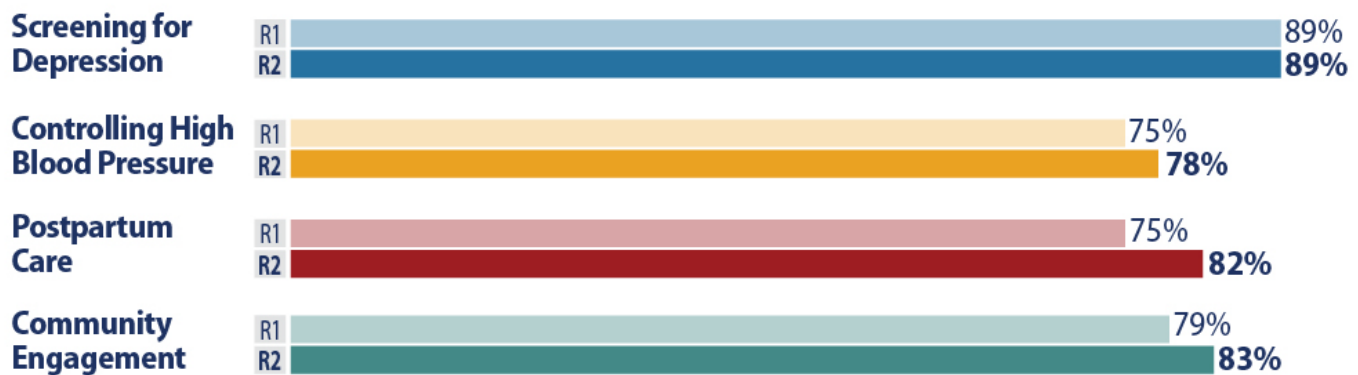
QIF-MH awardees are focused on improving the identification of patients' needs. They are demonstrating success in implementing effective internal screening workflows, building strong referral networks with community partners, and offering direct services and support tailored to patients' specific needs. Awardees commonly provide the following support: transportation, baby supplies, and food assistance.



Highlights:

- One awardee's partnership with a local food bank allows them to keep a stocked food pantry and consistently provide food support to more than 90% of their patients.
- Another awardee translated their PRAPARE screener into Lingala, a language native to northern Congo, and has a community health worker with lived experience on staff who reviews all program materials for cultural relevance to better meet the needs of the health center's immigrant and refugee patients.

Success by the Numbers



R1=Reporting Period 1 R2=Reporting Period 2

Note: Reporting periods reflect six-month time frames.

Compared to the first six months of their projects, awardees demonstrated improvements in providing postpartum care, helping their pregnant and postpartum patients control their high blood pressure, and enhancing levels of community engagement, all of which are essential to improving maternal health outcomes.

Next Steps

To drive continued improvements and sustainability planning, awardees will engage in peer learning over the next six months, focusing on:

- Building workforce and operational capacity to deliver maternal health services
- Addressing challenges with billing and coding
- Delivering coordinated, comprehensive team-based care
- Integrating people with lived experience and community partners
- Enhancing screening and referrals



Resource

The [Sustainability Planning Guide](#) is designed to support health centers in developing programs that continue to thrive beyond the grant period. It provides strategic insights and practical tools to ensure the longevity and effectiveness of innovations in maternal health and other service areas. Health centers can use this guide to create clear sustainability plans, identify key resources, and adapt successful strategies across various service areas.