

Welcome to the January Newsletter

We, at IMI, had an incredible 2023. From an all-new national convening, to the release of the eighth year of our flagship survey, to several community power building initiatives, we are excited to share our year-in-review and prepare for a more momentous 2024.

2023 Year-in-Review



We expanded our **Governing Board**, with the addition of **Gail Melissa Graham (she/her)**; **Jimmie Walton Paschall (she/her)**; **Citseko Staples Miller (she/her)**; **Alex Briscoe, MA (he/him)**; and **David Jacobson, MBA (he/him)**.

We convened experts from across the country to begin to build a five-year plan to address the maternal health crisis.

IMI hosted the first ever **Maternal Health Policy Equity Summit** in Washington, D.C. The summit brought together thought leaders and change agents who fostered collaboration and generated innovative ideas for shaping Medicaid policies. We will soon be releasing a five-year strategic Medicaid policy plan to support increased access to and coverage of evidence-based maternal health services and supports.



Our community power-building efforts inspired thousands to take action.

IMI's **midwifery-led care learning collaborative** enters its third year, with state teams releasing independent projects.

Our **doula learning series** concluded this year. More than one thousand participants learned about, participated in, and educated others on data-proven birthing.

We started a new learning series creating a business case for midwifery, helping midwives gain access to Medicaid funding.



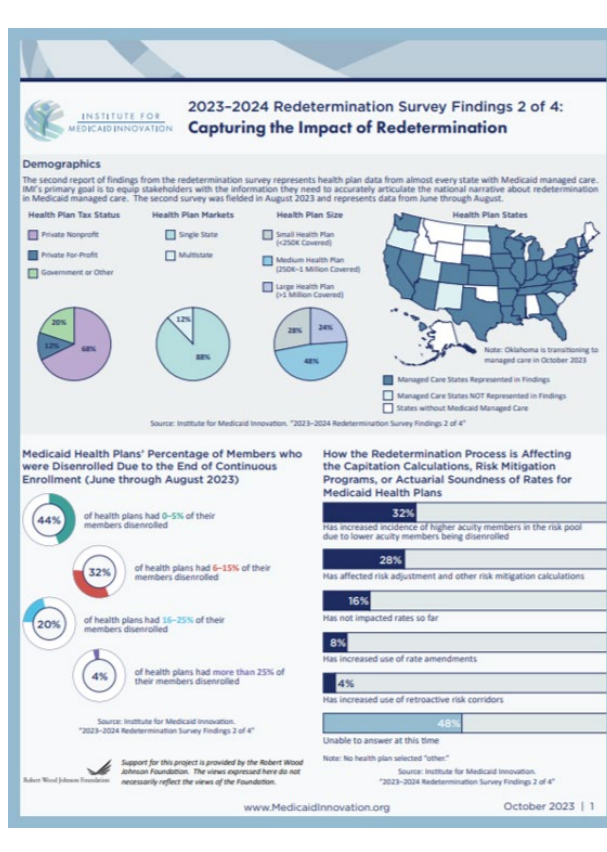
We released groundbreaking surveys in the field of Medicaid.

Our **annual Medicaid Managed Care Organization Survey** entered its eighth year, providing one-of-a-kind longitudinal data reflecting trends and best practices among Medicaid health plans.

The survey found challenges around provider workforce and capacity, data sharing, and provider participation, but also found creative new ways health plans are addressing these issues.

IMI also launched a **first-of-its-kind survey** of Medicaid health plans' response to the historic COVID-19 pandemic and the subsequent impacts of Medicaid redetermination.

The new, national project captures information that can be used to inform federal and state policymakers and other Medicaid stakeholders.



Our research paved the way for a healthier nation. Here are just a few of our releases in 2023:

- **Article:** Examination of Pre-Term Birth Among Racial and Ethnic Populations
- **Report:** Innovation in Perinatal and Child Health in Medicaid
- **Issue Brief:** Women and Gender Health Priority Topics
- **Report:** New Generation of Medicaid Risk Adjustment
- **Toolkit:** Making the Business Case for Social Determinants of Health
- **Report:** Critical Doula and Perinatal Findings from National Learning Series

We offered valuable insights that led policymakers to improve Medicaid.

- Medicaid and CHIP Payment and Access Commission: **Midwifery and birth center access**
- Health Care Payment Learning & Action Network Health Equity Advisory Team: **Social determinants of health guidance**
- California Health Care Foundation on behalf of the State of California: **Evaluation of maternal mental health legislation**
- American Academy of Pediatrics: **Childhood obesity guidelines**
- SCAN Foundation: **Public health emergency flexibilities**



IMI hit the road, presenting at several engagements.

- Association for Community Affiliated Plans Leadership Academy
- Association for Community Affiliated Plans CEO Summit
- HRSA Advisory Committee on Maternal & Child Health
- National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine: Workshop on Advancing Diagnostic Excellence for Maternal Health Care
- Council of State Governments National Medicaid Leadership Conference



Get Involved in 2024

Call for National Advisory Committee Nominations for Doula Learning and Action Collaborative

IMI will be launching a 3-year Doula Learning and Action Collaborative. The collaborative will support teams committed to increasing access to doula services for a diverse group of experts from across the country to serve on the project's National Advisory Committee (NAC). We are currently seeking potential NAC members with deep experience in one or more of the following areas:

- Implementation of community-based doula models.
- Adoption of Medicaid benefits within a health plan.
- Personal experience as a birthing person with Medicaid coverage.
- Advocacy in uplifting voices of historically excluded communities.

The NAC will support the planning phase for the collaborative beginning with the first virtual meeting in late February 2024.

If you are interested in being considered, please send an email to Yontii Wheeler (ywheeler@medicaidinnovation.org) by **Wednesday January 24, 2024**, briefly highlighting your relevant experience.

Support Our Work

We are working hard to improve health outcomes. IMI is currently funded 100% by research grants, contracts, and private donations. We do not lobby or advocate, and IMI is not a membership-based or trade association.

If you want to help us build a better future for the health of our country in 2024, please consider supporting this work by clicking the link below.

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It's not the statistics that make Medicaid real.



It's when you love one of the numbers.

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