



November 24, 2008

HRSA Reports Clearance Officer
Room 10-33
Parklawn Building
5600 Fishers Lane
Rockville, MD 20857

To HRSA Reports Clearance Officer:

The Association of Maternal and Child Health Programs (AMCHP) respectfully submits the following comments to the proposed project, Maternal and Child Health Services Title V Block Grant Program Guidance and Forms for the Title V Application/Annual Report (OMB No. 0915-0172).

AMCHP encourages the Maternal and Child Health Bureau (MCHB) to enhance availability and quality of Title V workforce information by collecting uniform workforce data from all state and territorial Title V agencies. Recommended workforce data includes:

- ◆ information on the FTE at state and local levels;
- ◆ tenure of the state maternal and child health workforce; and
- ◆ projected changes to the workforce in the coming year.

AMCHP encourages MCHB to include this data as a standard part of the capacity section of the block grant narrative. While many states and territories include information about the workforce within their Title V agencies, the information reported varies and is not shared in a uniform manner. This information is critical for tracking MCH workforce needs, including workforce shortages, recruitment and retention strategies, and training needs.

AMCHP is the national organization representing state public health leaders and others working to improve the health and well being of women, children and youth, including those with special health care needs, and families. AMCHP members are the Maternal and Child Health and Children with Special Health Care Needs Directors in every state and territory and have oversight over the Maternal and Child Health Services Block Grant programs.

AMCHP would be pleased to further discuss this request with MCHB and provide assistance in designing ways to collect such workforce data from each state and territory. Thank you for considering this request.

Sincerely,

Michael R. Fraser, PhD
Chief Executive Officer

• AMCHP •

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