



Joanne Nicholson, PhD, co-chairs the Data, Research and Quality Improvement work group of the national Task Force on Maternal Mental Health with Dana Meaney Delman, MD, Chief of the Infant Outcomes Monitoring Research and Prevention Branch of the CDC. The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) formed the Task Force on Maternal Mental Health in response to a directive from Congress (in the division of the [Consolidated Appropriations Act,](#)

[2023](#) called the Health Extenders, Improving Access to Medicare, Medicaid, and CHIP, and Strengthening Public Health Act of 2022 [Public Law 117–328, Section 1113]). The Task Force consists of representatives of federal agencies and non-federal individuals and entities who represent diverse disciplines and views. The purpose of the Task Force is to evaluate relevant federal programs, identify best practices, and make actionable recommendations to coordinate and improve federal activities for addressing maternal mental health conditions and substance use disorders. The Maternal Mental Health Task Force Report to Congress was launched on May 14, 2024 in Washington, D.C. Following release of the national strategy, the Task Force will develop a subsequent report to the governors of all states highlighting opportunities for state and local partnerships. The work of the Task Force continues through 2027.