

ILPQC Birthing Hospital Quality Designation Program with funding from BCBSIL Special Beginnings® and PVB/BE Sustainability Webinar

Tuesday April 14th, 2026 12:00 PM



Staff supporting the Illinois Birthing Hospital Quality Designation Program!



Maria Villagomez

ILPQC RN Quality Improvement Coordinator

Email: maria.villagomez@endeavorhealth.org



Owusu Bekoe

ILPQC Senior Program Coordinator

Email: Owusu.Bekoe@northwestern.edu

Attendance Poll

Please fill out the poll so that we can track hospital team attendance for Quality Designation Webinars. If unable to complete poll, please email maria.villagomez@endeavorhealth.org



Announcements





2026 OB & Neonatal Face-to-Face Meeting



Regular Registration Open until May 8th!

Calling ALL Perinatal Leaders, Providers, Nurses, Advocates and Friends!
Join us for an interactive day of collaborative learning with the ILPQC community.

OB TEAMS: May 20th
NEONATAL TEAMS: May 21st

 **MAY 20-21, 2026**
PRESIDENT ABRAHAM LINCOLN
DOUBLETREE HOTEL, SPRINGFIELD, IL

[Scan to Register](#)



 www.ilpqc.org

Attendance required criteria for designation award

Illinois the Best Place to Give Birth and be Born

Please invite at least one *physician champion*, one *nurse champion*, and a *patient partner* to attend to represent your hospital.

Upcoming Face-to-Face Prep Reminders!

DATA DUE
Wednesday
April 15th, 2026

Submit your Data!

- All data baseline-March 2026 will be **due on April 15, 2026**, for award consideration.

Call for Storyboards!

- **Templates available!** All hospital teams are asked to create a storyboard on QI work (can be in progress).

Register for F2F 2026!

- Regular Registration: April 9th – May 8th
\$100/day or \$200/both days



DHS/ILPQC Bedside Nurse Scholarship Opportunity

Each hospital can send:

1 bedside OB and 1-Neonatal nurse to attend this year's Face-to-Face.
Discounted registration available and a **FREE** night stay.



50 Nurse Scholarship Applications from 37 hospitals have been received to date!
Application link is still active for nominated nurses!

Additional questions can be directed to linda.okelley@endeavorhealth.org



Parent Partner Opportunity

FREE Registration
& hotel stay
will be provided.

Patient Partner Code Request:

Email your **Name & Hospital** to:

tochukwu.akujieze@endeavorhealth.org

Community Engagement Coordinator



Share the Love!

ILPQC is once again partnering with The Parent Place
at this year's Face-to-Face Meeting

List of needed items:

**Diapers & wipes, formula (regular and gentle), diaper cream,
baby wash, baby lotions, baby soap, teething toys,
pacifiers, bibs, small baby toys, and baby board books**

**Please bring the requested items with you to our
Face-to-Face Meeting in Springfield!**

Additional questions can be directed to linda.okelley@endeavorhealth.org

2026 IL Birthing Hospital Quality Excellence Award Designation



IL Birthing Hospital Quality Excellence Award Designation



Funding Awards: \$10,000-\$20,000 toward your OB Department's QI efforts

Purpose: This statewide designation honors hospitals demonstrating sustained excellence in birthing care and commitment to equity-focused quality improvement.

Program Goals:

- Advance Birth Equity and Promoting Vaginal Birth (PVB) sustainability.
- Reinforce commitment to patient & community engagement
- Reduce disparities in NTSV Cesarean section rates and patient experience
- Support hospitals with Perinatal Mental Health Initiative progress
- Increase focus on PREM data to optimize Respectful Care for all patients

Support for the IL Birthing Hospital Quality Excellence Designation Program, including mini-grants and monetary awards, is provided by BCBSIL Special Beginnings program®

Patient Reported Experience Measure (PREM) Survey Implementation: Laying the Groundwork in 2025

PREM Survey Collection Requirement (Ongoing):

- Collect PREM surveys on respectful care for **10% or more of deliveries per month or at least 15 deliveries per month**

PREM Survey Tool Includes Questions on:

- Respectful Care
- Listening
- Shared decision-making
- Compassionate Communication

Goal in 2025:

- Hospitals were expected to sustain the implementation of the PREM survey and share results with clinical staff to improve patient experience.
-

New in 2026: Analyzing PREM Data to Reduce Disparities

Designation Criteria Update

Hospitals will track responses to the following PREM questions (using the dashboard):

1. *“My healthcare team did a good job listening to me; I felt heard”*
2. *“I was treated with respect and compassion” (from OB providers and nurses)*
3. *“My healthcare choices were respected by the health care team”*

ILPQC will provide PREM results in dashboard stratified by:

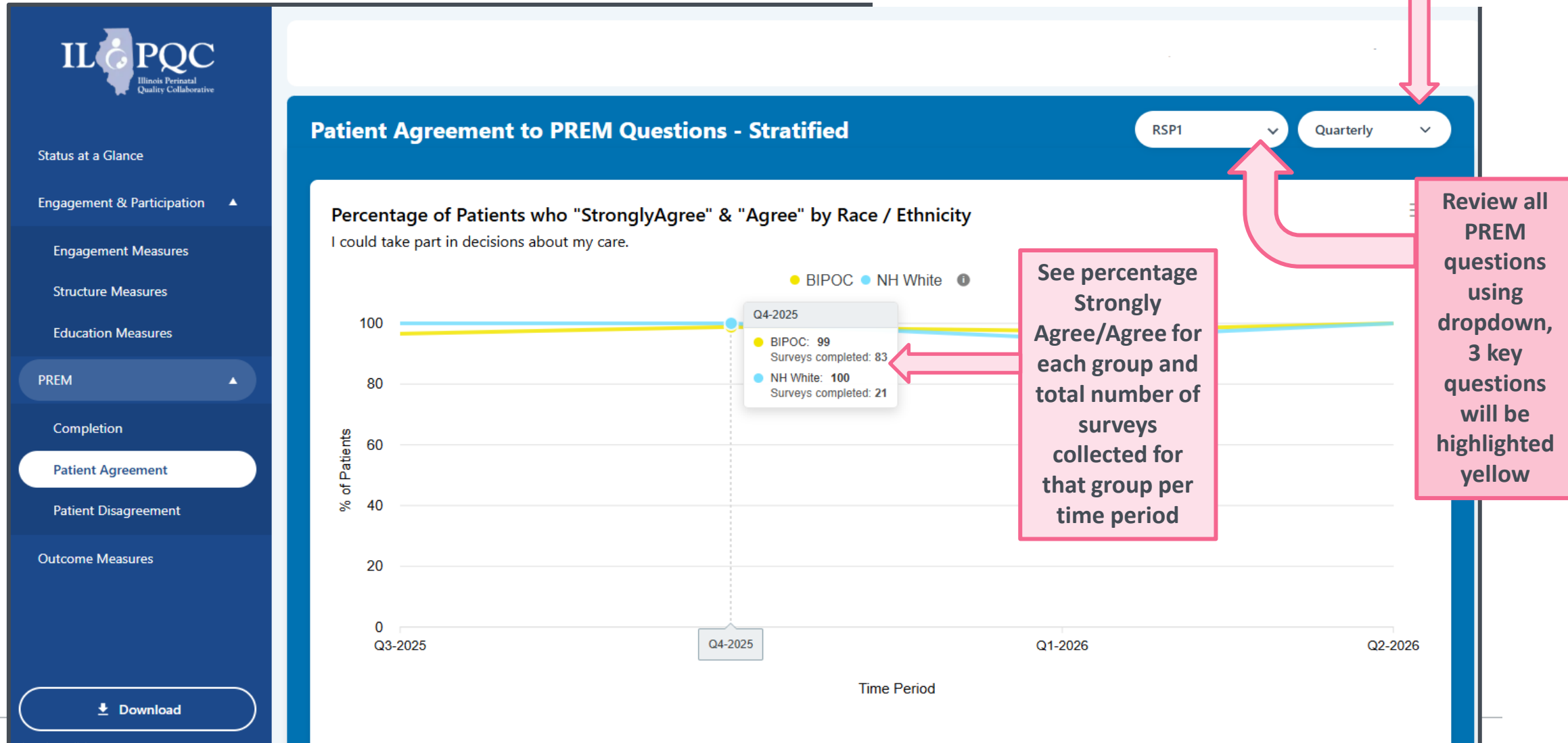
- Race/Ethnicity: BIPOC vs White
- Insurance Type: Public vs Private

Goal in 2026:

- Achieve $\geq 95\%$ "Strongly Agree & Agree" response rates across racial/ethnic and insurance groups
 - Use insights to guide quality improvement activities and inform staff/provider training
-

2026 Update: PREM Data in the Dashboard

Identify gaps and track improvement over time



Using PREM Data to Improve Respectful Care

- Review PREM data and focus on key questions with staff
- Engage patient partners to review feedback and develop strategies
- Use insights from **Respectful Care Breakfasts** to inform changes
- Focus on reducing disparities across patient groups



5 Steps to Engaging a Patient or Parent Partner

- Finding a patient or parent partner to join your QI Team
 - Hold a Respectful Care Breakfast and meet potential patient and parent partners
 - Ask clinical team members who work with mothers and newborns to identify potential partners
 - Consider perspectives from patients and parents
- Ask for help from:
 - OB Provider
 - Social Worker
- The next step is to ask if they might be interested in sharing their perspective
 - Ask clinical team members to ask if they might be interested in sharing their perspective
 - Ask if they want to work with you and share their perspective
 - "Would you be interested in improving care for mothers?"
- Welcome them!
 - It's critical to have a patient or parent partner
 - Identify the patient or parent partner
 - Go over the process
 - Link patient or parent partner to the team
- QI opportunities
 - Help develop or give feedback
 - Assist in planning for the next breakfast
 - Input on steps for the next breakfast
 - Feedback on process
 - Input on doula-friendly care
 - Participate with the team

Promoting Safe and Respectful Maternity Care for All Patients

Our Commitment to You

What does it mean to give and receive respectful care during labor and delivery?

Maternal care teams throughout Illinois are coming together to address inequities in healthcare, and to improve birth experiences for all patients.

We are committed to providing you safe and respectful care. Respectful care ensures that patients receive patient-centered care, feel respected and listened to, and the individual needs and preferences of all birthing people are valued and met.

We believe that respectful care is an essential component of what it takes for all patients to thrive.

Supporting respectful care for all patients:

The Illinois Perinatal Quality Collaborative (ILPQC) works with patients, physicians, midwives, nurses, hospitals, and community groups to reduce maternal disparities and promote birth equity by ensuring all patients receive safe, high-quality compassionate, and respectful care.

Here are our respectful care commitments to every patient

We commit to...

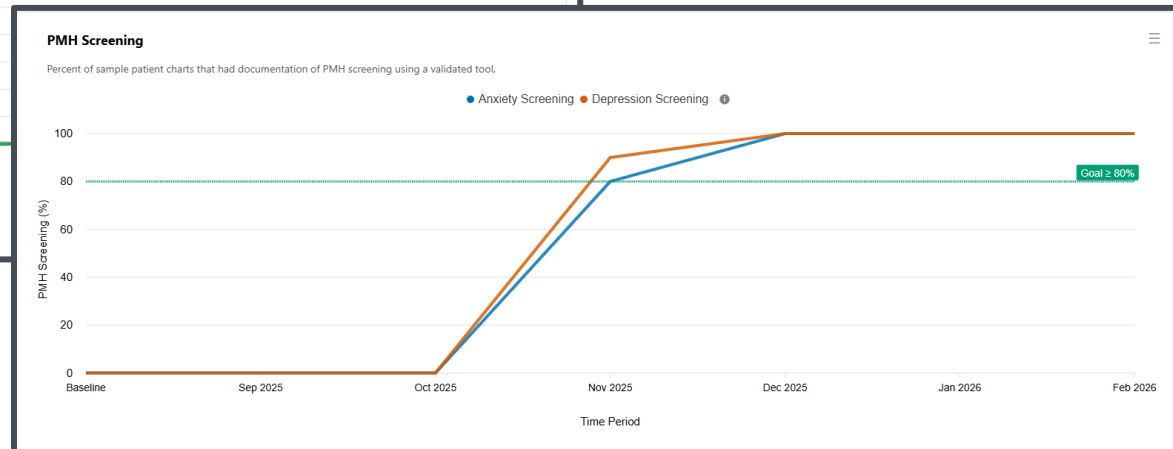
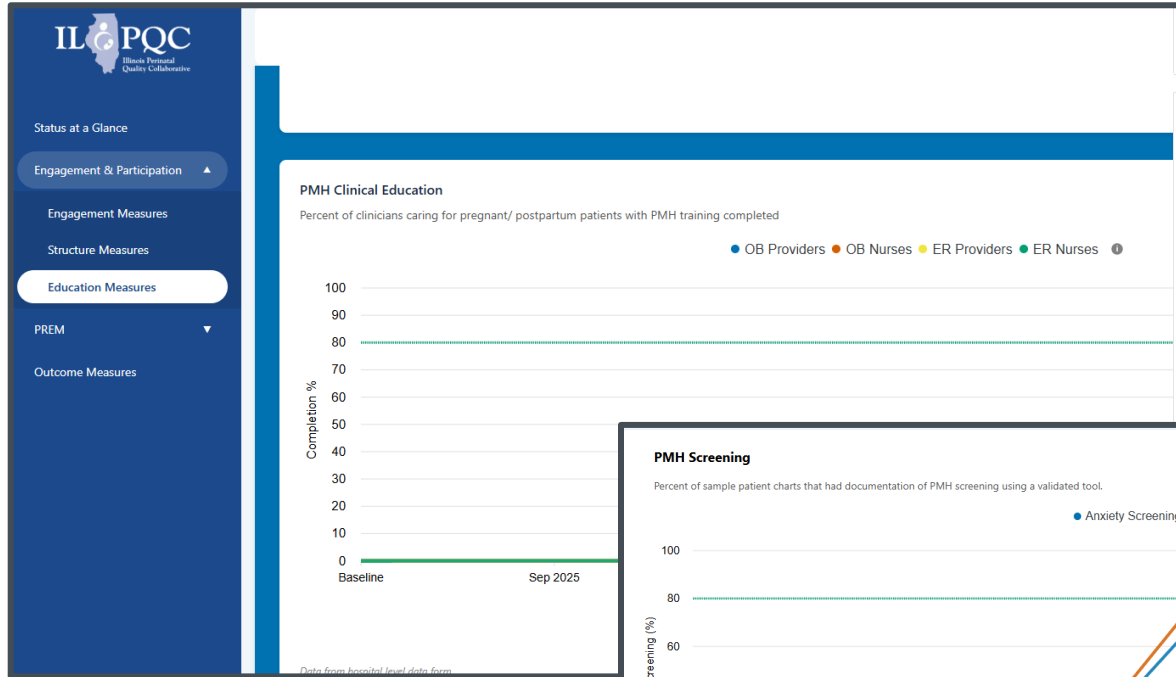
1. **Treating you with dignity and respect** throughout your hospital stay
2. **Introducing ourselves and our role** on your care team to you and your support persons upon entering the room
3. **Learning your goals for delivery and postpartum:** What is important to you for labor and birth? What are your concerns regarding your birth experience? How can we best support you?
4. **Working to understand you,** your background, your home life and your health history so we can make sure you receive the care you need during your birth and recovery
5. **Communicating effectively** across your health care team to ensure the best care for you
6. **Partnering with you for all decisions** so that you can make choices that are right for you
7. **Practicing "active listening"**—to ensure that you, and your support persons are heard
8. **Valuing personal boundaries and respecting your dignity and modesty at all times,** including asking your permission before entering a room or touching you
9. **Recognizing your prior experiences with healthcare may affect how you feel during your birth,** we will strive at all times to provide safe, equitable and respectful care
10. **Making sure you are discharged after delivery with an understanding of postpartum warning signs,** where to call with concerns, and with postpartum follow-up care visits arranged
11. **Ensuring you are discharged with the skills, support and resources** to care for yourself and your baby
12. **Protecting your privacy** and keeping your medical information confidential
13. **Being ready to hear any concerns** or ways that we can improve your care

Access Birth Equity Toolkit Here

New in 2026: Integrating PMH Process Measures

Criteria	Birthing Hospital Quality Excellence Award
Achieve documentation of depression screening with a validated tool	Achieve patient documentation of depression screening using a validated tool during delivery hospitalization for at least 80% of charts sampled.
Achieve documentation of anxiety screening with a validated tool	Achieve patient documentation of anxiety screening using a validated tool during delivery hospitalization for at least 80% of charts sampled.

2026 Birth Quality Designation Dashboard Updates-PMH Integration



What's new:

- PMH Clinician Education now included in dashboard
- Depression/anxiety screening documentation added

What this means for teams:

- All designation criteria can be tracked in one place

2026 Birth Quality Designation Dashboard

Updates-Engagement Measures

Engagement Measures

Reporting Month: March 2026

	Measures	Progress	Quality Excellence
Webinars	Attendance at 10 or more monthly team webinars	No. of monthly webinars attended: 3	✗
Meetings	Attendance of nurse champion at ILPQC face-to-face meeting and annual conference. Attendance of provider champion at ILPQC face-to-face meeting and/or annual conference, as of 03/11/2026	ILPQC face-to-face nurse attendee	✗
		ILPQC face-to-face provider attendee	✗
		ILPQC annual conference nurse attendee	✗
		ILPQC annual conference provider attendee	✗
Participation in QI Support	Attend 2 or more quality improvement support contacts with ILPQC per year. Includes office hours and at least one 1:1 support call (includes PMH initiative)	No. of QI support attended: 1	✗
Data Submissions	12 months of monthly data from Sep 2025 - Aug 2026	No. of cumulative data submissions in the last year (starting Sep 2025): 7	✗
Respectful Care Breakfasts	Hold 2 or more respectful care breakfasts per year	No. of cumulative respectful care breakfasts in the last year (starting Sep 2025): 2	✓
Patient Partner	Engagement of a patient partner in the quality improvement team		✓

- 2026 updates are now live

- Contact Maria at maria.villagomez@endeavorhealth.org if information is not reflected correctly

Mini-Grant Overview



2026 Mini-Grant Applications Across Hospitals

59 Hospitals Applied

54 teams plan to use funds for Respectful Care Breakfast

36 teams applied for patient partner payments

20 teams applied for Momma's voices training

- Most common planned use: Host **Respectful Care Breakfasts**
- Strong investment in **patient partner engagement**
- **Spinning Babies** was the most requested training

👉 *Mini-grant funds can also support patient incentives (e.g., baby board books, onesies) to encourage PREM survey completion*

Payment Logistics



- To receive payment, ILPQC will register the hospital as a vendor in the system used by ILPQC
- ILPQC will reach out to the primary contact for the needed information, starting with the hospital W-9 form
- Vendor registration and payment can take a few weeks to process
- Email Owusu:
owusu.bekoe@northwestern.edu with any questions

Next Steps to achieve Birth Quality Designation Awards



PATHWAY TO DESIGNATION

Submit Monthly REDCap Data

Submit the monthly sustainability data form to track progress towards designation and key BE and PVB Sustainability Measures



Attend Next Webinar & In-Person Meeting

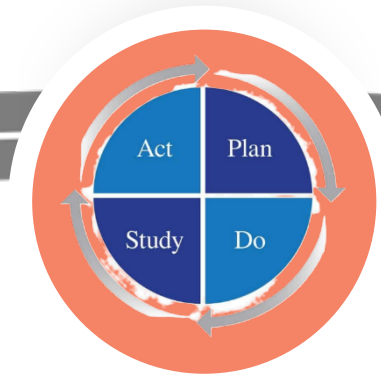
Register for and attend the next **Designation Webinar** or **PMH Webinar**



Quality Designation: Jan 27, April 14, June 23
PMH: Feb 23, Mar 23, Apr 27, Jun 22, Jul 27, Aug 24, Sept 21, Oct. 19, Dec 21

Participate in QI Support

Join Office Hours on Thursdays at 1pm or set up a 1:1 QI Call



Send us pictures using your ILPQC Mini-Grants in action to support your hospitals Birth Quality work!
Contact us with any questions

Submit 2026 Designation Application

Application will open in REDCap in September



IRTH Birth Without Bias Partner Webinar

Solaire Spellen, MPH (she/her)
Head of Quality Improvement & Systems Change,
Irth App

Alexus Berry, MHA, DrPH (she/her)
Systems Change Associate
Irth App



Team Talk



MercyHealth FHN Freeport, IL

Pathway towards Designation and Sustainability

Keri Schubert BSN, RNC-MNN, C-EFM

Perinatal Educator



Roseland Community Hospital Chicago, IL

Sylvia Dewberry BSN, RNC, LCCE

Perinatal Clinical Nurse Navigator



Thank you to our Funders:



Illinois State Maternal Health Program



Supporters:

