



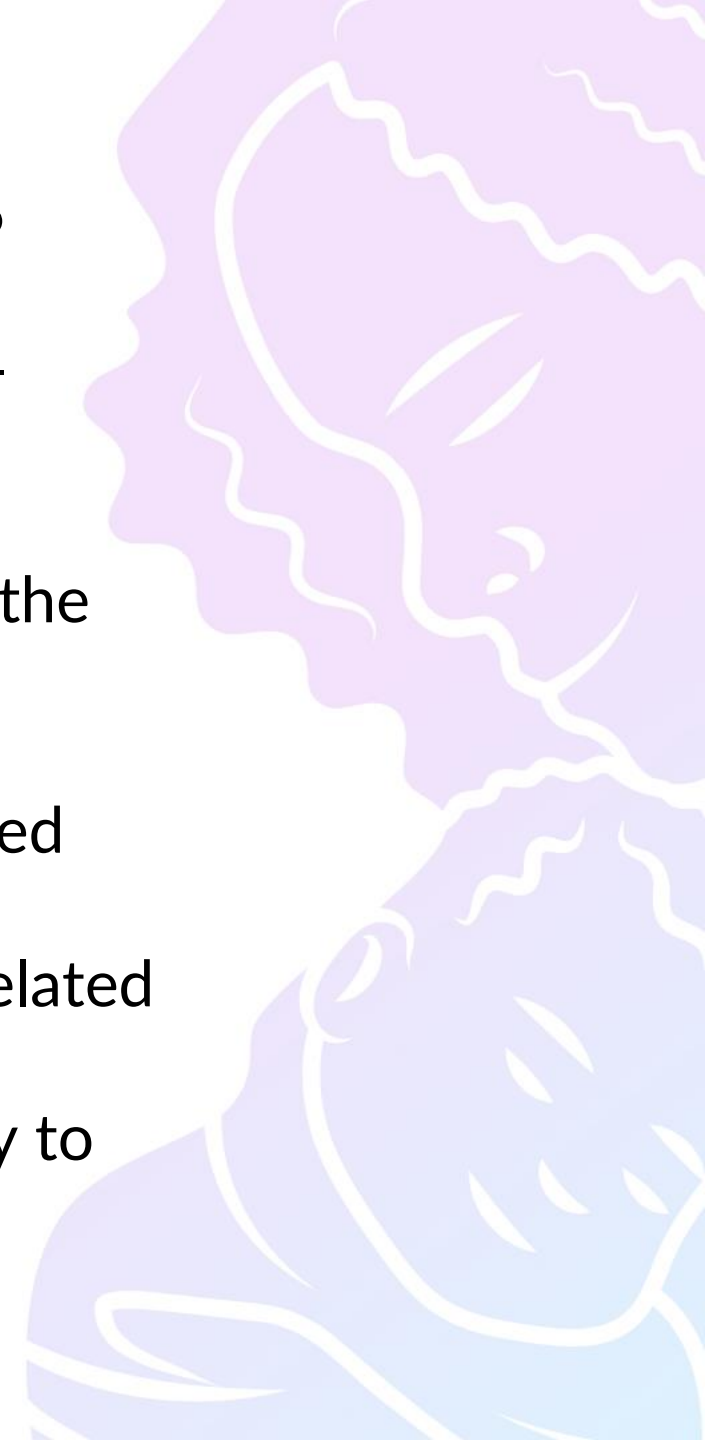
# **NJ Maternal & Infant Health Innovation Authority**

November 21, 2024



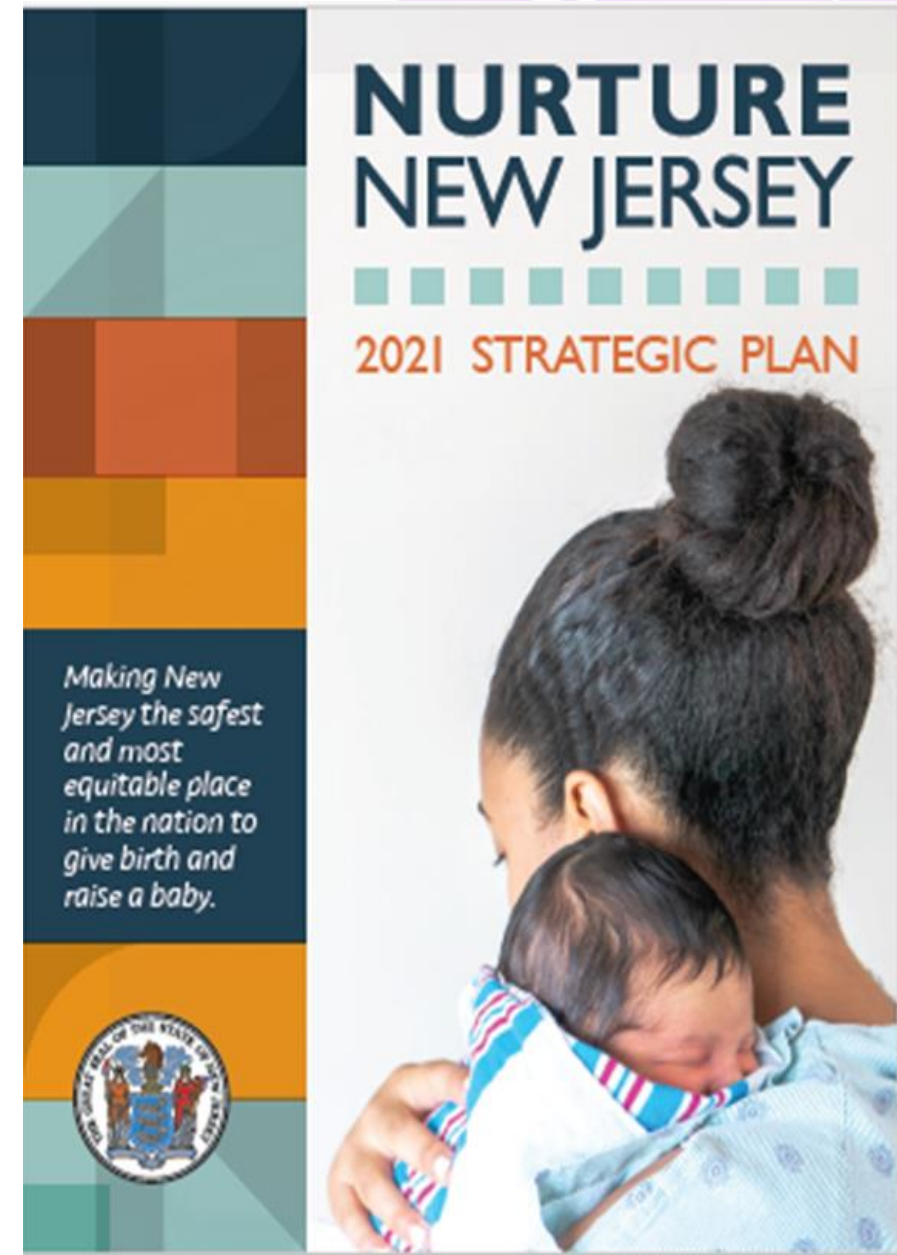
# Maternal and Infant Health Crisis

- U.S Maternal Mortality rate the highest amongst high-income countries
- 80% of those deaths are preventable
- New Jersey has moved in ranking from 47<sup>th</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup> in the nation
  - Disparities persist
  - Black mother 7x more to die from pregnancy-related complications than a white mother
  - Hispanic mother 5x more to die from pregnancy-related complications than a white mother
  - Black baby is over 3x more likely than a white baby to die before his or her first birthday



# Nurture NJ

- First Lady Tammy Murphy launched Nurture NJ Campaign in 2019.
- 2021 Nurture NJ unveiled the Nurture NJ Maternal and Infant Health Strategic Plan.
  - Blueprint to reducing New Jersey's maternal mortality by 50 percent over five years and eliminating racial disparities in birth outcomes;
  - Whole of government approach – 21 state agencies;
  - Over 80 recommendations





# Transition and Sustainability Plan

## Nurture NJ



- Campaign
- Launched Nurture NJ Strategic Plan
- Dependent on Murphy administration support
- Non-permanent
- Transitioning - goals assumed by MIHIA



## MIHIA (Maternal and Infant Health Innovation Authority)

- New state authority devoted to advancing best-in-class maternal/infant care
- Permanent through legislation
- Unique hybrid model – state-funded + donor supported
- Focus on policy, thought leadership, research, innovation, and workforce development
- Implementer of Nurture NJ Strategic Plan recommendation 3.3 - Establish a Trenton-based Center known as the Maternal and Infant Health Innovation Center (MIHIC)

# Maternal and Infant Health Innovation Authority

- Established in 2023 through legislation S3864, known as the New Jersey Maternal and Infant Health Innovation Center Act.
- Advancing maternal and infant health care and clinical services throughout the State.
- Coordinating, promoting, and implementing education, policymaking, research, innovation, perinatal workforce development and more, with a particular focus on eliminating racial disparities in maternal and infant health outcomes.



# MIHIA's Goals

- Eliminate racial disparities in New Jersey
- Move New Jersey from 27<sup>th</sup> in the nation to first in the nation
- Diversify and build the perinatal workforce
- Implement innovative clinical and social service approaches to addressing maternal health in Trenton with an eye towards statewide expansion
- Establish strategic partnerships locally, statewide, nationally, and globally
- Share best practices and learn from others



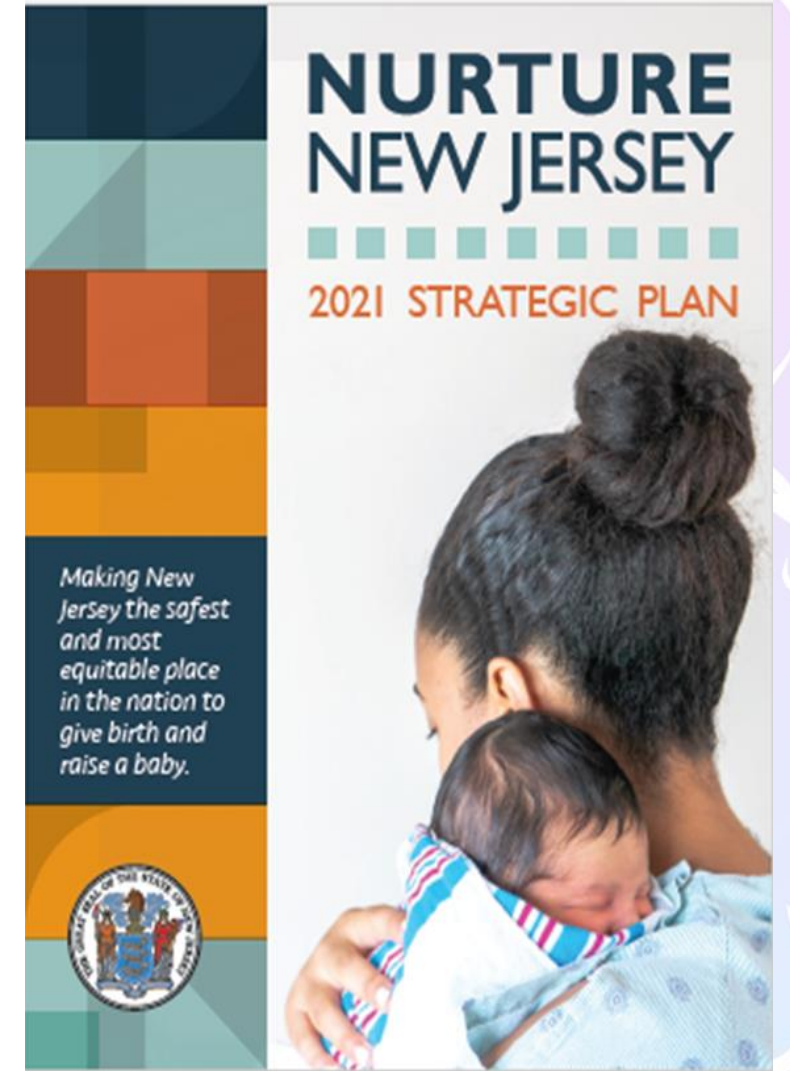


**Maternal & Infant Health  
Innovation Center  
(MIHIC)**



# Nurture NJ Strategic Plan: Recommendation 3.3

- Establish a Center in the state capital that focuses on innovation and research in maternal and infant health through partnerships with the state's academic, funder, business and faith communities.
- The Center will...
  - Be an academic hub for job development, training, and placements for Trenton public school students, Trenton residents and the state
  - Provide social service supports for Trenton moms and families
  - Offer must needed clinical services
  - House an Incubator space to support the emerging market of early-stage entrepreneurs and local businesses





# MIHIA in Action – The Center

Pre- & Post-Natal  
Clinical Services

Perinatal  
Workforce  
Education &  
Training

Social Services  
and Wrap-around  
Supports

Policy, Research,  
& Data  
Collaborative

Maternal & Infant  
Health  
Innovation  
Incubator

# Anchor Tenants Roles & Responsibilities

## Innovation

### Capital Health

Lead Healthcare Clinical Service Provider

Obstetric and Gynecological Services; Pediatric Clinical Services (including Newborn Care); Mental and Behavioral Health Services; Doula, Lactation Consultant, Community Health Worker Supports; Telehealth Services

### Rutgers University

Lead Institution of Higher Education (IHE)

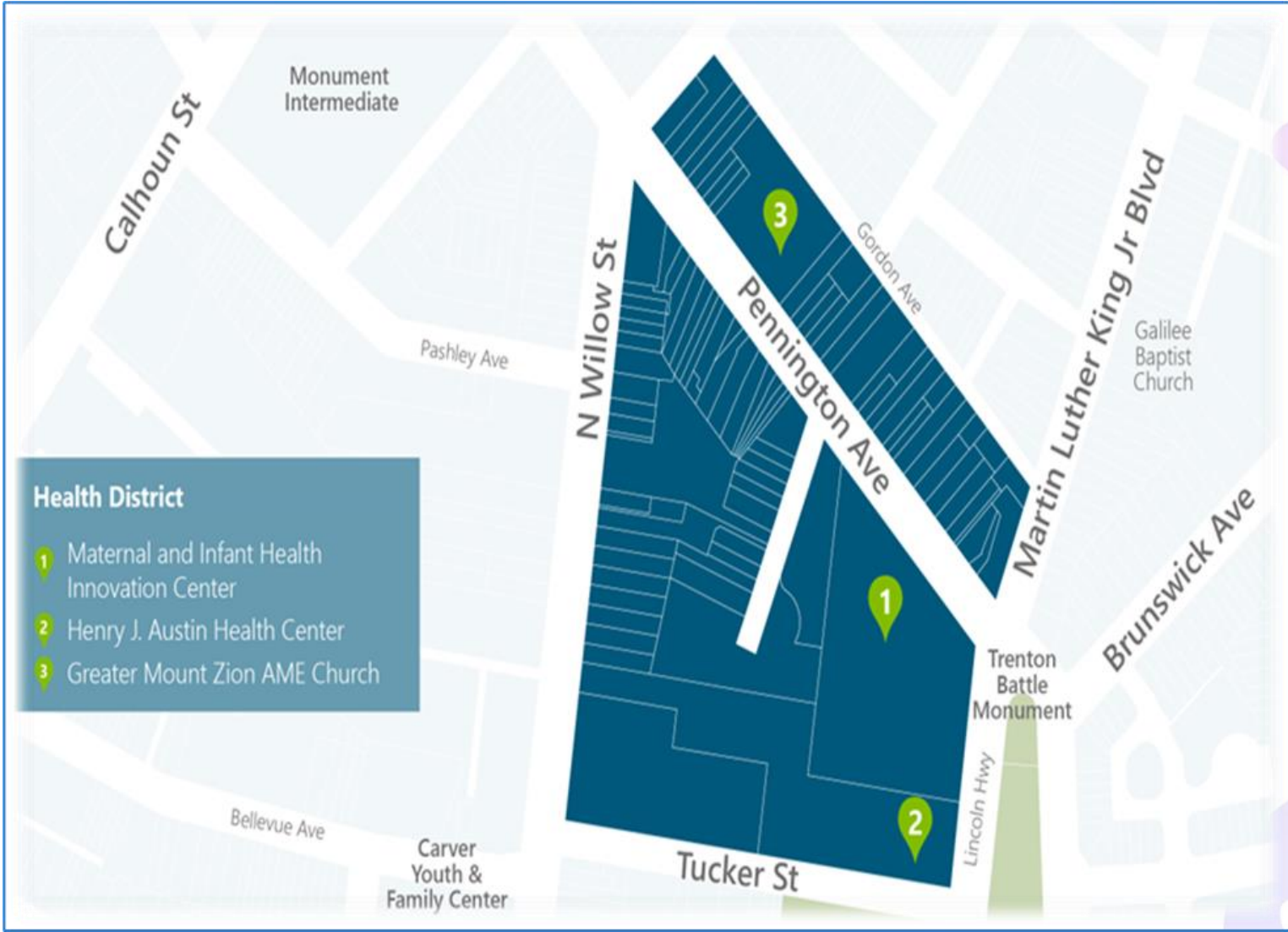
Accredited Degree Granting Programs; Certification Programs and Non-Degree Programs; On-the-Job Training Opportunities (e.g., internships, apprenticeships, job shadowing); Student Support Services, including Job Search and Placement Support; Maternal and Infant Health Research

### Trenton Health Team

Lead Trenton-Based Multi-Service Organization (MSO)

Case Management and Care Coordination; Linkages to Wrap-Around Supports; Public Benefit Eligibility Screening and Enrollment; Pregnancy, Childbirth, and Parenting Support (e.g. Centering and parenting classes)

# Maternal & Infant Health Innovation Center Location







# Current Transportation Resource







# ACCESS LINK

**Presenter:**

**Kris Tucker, Director of Customer Experience - Access Link**







# ACCESS LINK

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Provides origin to destination transportation services for people with disabilities under guidelines established by the ADA.





# MATERNAL INFANT HEALTH COMMITMENT

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To help improve maternal and infant health in communities where race and economics are contributing factors to infant mortality rates by increasing transportation options.



# THE M.I.H APPLICATION EXPERIENCE:

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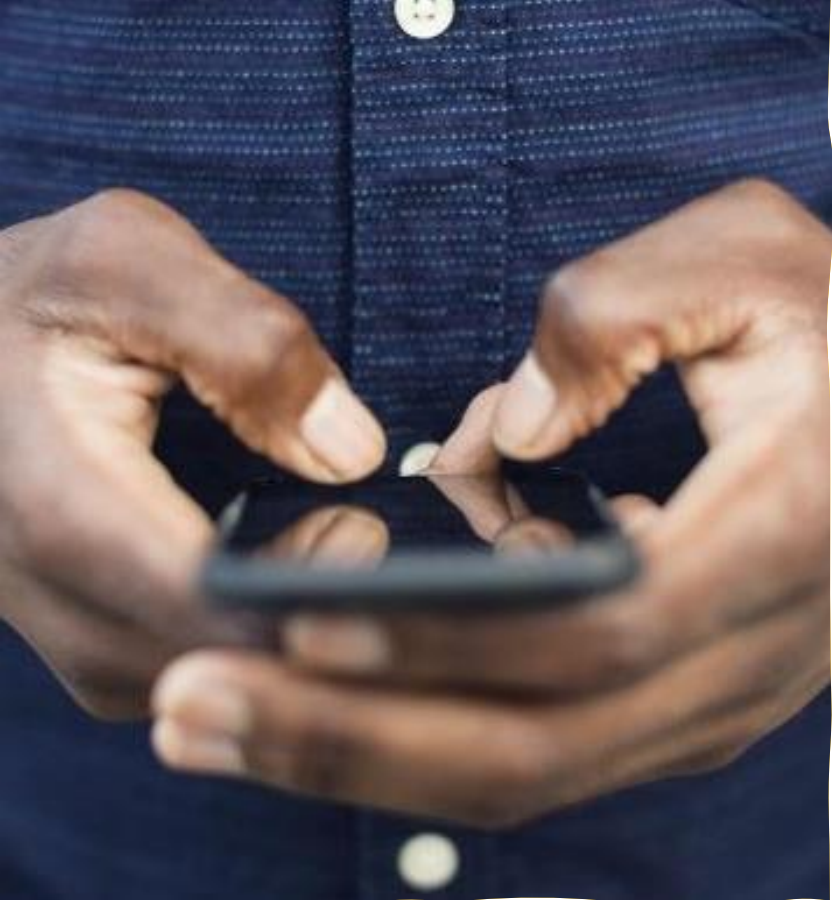
- Applications accepted via email or mail
- 1:1 assistance available via phone
- Medical condition, related to pregnancy, must be verified
- Eligibility information mailed
- Extension requests are accepted





**THE SERVICE AREA:**  
Available in the same areas and  
times as the local fixed route  
system.





## THE RESERVE A RIDE EXPERIENCE, TIPS, AND PAYMENT :

### EXPERIENCE:

- ACCESS LINK MOBILE APP
- ACCESS LINK ONLINE
- EMAIL

### TIPS:

- RESERVATIONS 1-7 DAYS IN ADVANCE
- CAR & BOOSTER SEATS
- NO SAME DAY CHANGES
- 5 MINUTE WAIT PERIOD
- TRAVELING WITH PACKAGES

### PAYMENT:

- EZ-WALLET
- EXACT CASH

# THE RIDE EXPERIENCE:

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- PICK-UPS OCCUR WITHIN A 30 MINUTE WINDOW
- SHARED RIDE SERVICE
- FLEET IS A VAN / SEDAN MIX
- DRIVER ASSISTANCE IS AVAILABLE ONCE THE CUSTOMER REACHES THE VEHICLE.
- REASONABLE ACCOMMODATIONS: SUBJECT TO REVIEW







# THE COMMUNICATION EXPERIENCE:

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- **MY TRANSIT ALERTS:**  
<https://www.njtransit.com/mytransit>
- Subscribe to **NJT ALICE ALERTS:** text the Access Link Customer ID and Pin number to 41411
- **WHERE'S MY RIDE:** after subscribing to NJT ALICE ALERTS
  - text NJT ETA to 41411
- **TWITTER:** [Access Link \(@NJTRANSIT\\_AL\)](https://twitter.com/NJTRANSIT_AL)
- **EMAIL:** [adaservices@njtransit.com](mailto:adaservices@njtransit.com)
- **PHONE:** 973-491-4224

# THE OUTREACH EXPERIENCE:

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- VOTER REGISTRATION
- REDUCED FARE
- VAX-RIDE
- NON-DRIVER IDENTIFICATION
- REPLACING LOST SS CARDS
- STATEWIDE VIRTUAL TRAVEL INSTRUCTION.
- MAGNUS CARDS







# QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS



## ACCESS LINK IS OFFERING TRANSPORTATION ASSISTANCE FOR THOSE WITH HIGH RISK PREGNANCIES

MATERNAL AND INFANT HEALTH COMMITTEE  
(M.I.H) INITIATIVE



### APPLY FOR TRANSPORTATION ASSISTANCE



- If you are experiencing a high-risk pregnancy and need transportation assistance, request a Maternal Infant Health (MIH) application.
- Completed applications are reviewed daily.
- Eligibility for services are based on your individual circumstances and require verification from a health care professional



- Applications accepted via email or mail.
- 1:1 assistance available via phone.
- Medical condition, related to pregnancy, must be verified by a doctor.
- All eligibility determination letters are mailed or emailed.
- Extension request will be considered.
- Applications are only reviewed Mon-Fri.

### STEPS TO APPLY:

- Download the application
- Complete the application
- Email or Fax the application and medical verification

This application can be submitted to NJ TRANSIT via:



Fax: 973.863.4522



Email: ADACERT@njtransit.com



For eligibility questions call (973) 491-4224 and select option #1  
Mon-Fri from 8:30 am to 5:00pm, except on holidays.



**ADA PARATRANSIT**  
TEMPORARY ELIGIBILITY REQUEST  
MATERNAL AND INFANT HEALTH (M.I.H)