



**Start Strong Agenda**  
June 8, 2026

**Meeting Highlights and Action Plan**

Topic/ Presenter	Key Points	Action Items <i>Including Responsible Party/Timeline if applicable</i>
<b>Meeting Focus</b>	<b>Subcommittees</b>	
<b>Meeting start and stop time</b>		
<b>Mission and Vision and centering moment</b>	3-3:05 AnnMarie Schmersal	
<b>Introductions</b>	3:05-3:15 Brief roundtable introductions, announcements and updates	
<b>Breakout into subcommittees</b>	<p><b>Subcommittee #1 Preterm Birth Prevention- Priority- SDOH stabilization, early pregnancy identification and care</b></p> <p>B2a. Social Determinants of Health Data</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ongoing data collection on SDOH.</li> <li>• New CHW-based supports launching in 2026 (Mercy, Rocking Horse, FYI, PRC, Help Me Grow, CCCHD/MCOs).</li> </ul> <p>B5. Increase Insurance Enrollment &amp; Benefit Utilization</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Raise awareness of Medicaid eligibility and MCO benefits.</li> <li>• Maintain outreach at early pregnancy access points (PRC, ER, health department, sexual health &amp; wellness clinic).</li> </ul> <p><b>Subcommittee #2 Breastfeeding and Safe Sleep</b> – BF support group, increased community lactation support capacity, next steps?</p>	

	<p><i>Subcommittee #3 Fatherhood and Health Equity</i> – Option to 1.) Divvy up and mix with other subcommittee to ensure this lens is being applied to strategies. Record how we are meeting this objective within each strategy. 2) Project focus: Rob (PRC) and Kris (RHC) to share update on their collaboration to develop a <b>pregnancy checklist for dads</b>. Do we/ should we add to Start Strong website? How is it going?</p> <p><i>Subcommittee #4: Community Engagement and Awareness- Business sector engagement-</i> outline next steps</p> <p>Produce Regular <b>Social Media Content</b>- We now have a Facebook page and are ready for content!</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Create reels and stories on maternal/infant health topics.</li> <li>• Highlight community partners and resources weekly.</li> <li>• Post culturally appropriate content (Haitian Creole, Spanish)</li> </ul> <p><b>Community Events</b>- BabyFair, Minority Health Fair, SS101 style, planning to make it more interactive. Develop a timeline.</p> <p><b>From MVCDC: ECEC we have resource Wednesdays in which we invite community organizations to share resources with our families. Our next one is on June 24th from 2-5pm. The address for our center is 1001 East John St. in Springfield. Tables and chairs are provided.- do we want to attend? Do we have the capacity?</b></p>	
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2026 Meeting Schedule, all meetings 3-4pm except NOV/ DEC combined meeting will be  
2:30-4pm: 2026 Full Coalition Meeting topics  
July 13: Subcommittees working meeting  
AUG 17 Teen Pregnancy

September: BF/ Safe Sleep: Birthing Center updates  
OCT 19 subcommittees working meeting  
Nov/Dec: extended roundtable updates, subcommittee reports