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## CONNECT2HEALTH<sup>FCC</sup> TASK FORCE ANNOUNCES WEBINAR ON MAPPING BROADBAND AND MATERNAL HEALTH DATA

GN Docket No. 23-309

On Wednesday, September 27, the Federal Communications Commission's Connect2Health<sup>FCC</sup> Task Force will host a virtual webinar to demonstrate the newly updated <u>Mapping Broadband Health in America platform</u> incorporating maternal health data. The platform is designed to help drive innovative broadband-enabled solutions such as telehealth in areas impacted by poor maternal health outcomes, including higher maternal mortality or severe maternal morbidity. Increasingly, broadband connectivity is recognized as an essential component to improving health, access to health care, and health equity, yet organizations and policymakers often need shared information on where gaps and opportunities exist to help them effectively leverage broadband to improve maternal health.

This virtual webinar will explore how the platform can be used to generate actionable insights and provide an opportunity for users to inform further development of this important tool. Participants will learn how to generate customized maps and visualize the intersection of broadband connectivity and maternal health data. Specifically, the public can use this platform to:

- Intersect broadband data and maternal mortality or severe maternal morbidity rates at the state level:
- Determine how connectivity and access to obstetric care coincide at the county level, revealing "double burden" counties (i.e., those with higher health need and lower connectivity resources);
- View connectivity metrics (e.g., Internet adoption, download speed) and maternal health data filtered by rurality, race/ethnicity, and maternal age to visualize patterns, possible disparities, and areas where broadband-enabled interventions could create the greatest impact; and
- Visualize the intersection of broadband and mental health provider shortages, given the association between mental health and poor maternal health outcomes.

WHAT: Mapping Broadband and Maternal Health Webinar WHEN: Wednesday, September 27, 2023 at 2:00-3:15 PM EDT

WHO SHOULD ATTEND: Policymakers, public health experts, clinicians, researchers, community

organizations, innovators, and other people interested in the intersection

of broadband and maternal health.

**REGISTRATION:** This virtual public event is free and will be accessible to the public via

Zoom.gov. Please click here to register.

Open captioning will be provided for this event. Other reasonable accommodations for people with disabilities are available upon request. Requests for such accommodations should be submitted via e-mail to <a href="fcc504@fcc.gov">fcc504@fcc.gov</a> or by calling the Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau at (202) 418-0530 (voice). Such requests should include a detailed description of the accommodation needed. In addition,

please include a way for FCC staff to contact the requester if more information is needed to fill the request. Last minute requests will be accepted but it may not be possible to accommodate the request.

To access the *Mapping Broadband Health in America* platform, visit: fcc.gov/health/maps. Click on the "2023 Mapping Platform" button and then choose the "Maternal Health" icon to enter the maternal health module of the platform.

For additional information about the webinar, contact the Connect2Health<sup>FCC</sup> Task Force by e-mail at <a href="mailto:engageC2H@fcc.gov">engageC2H@fcc.gov</a>, and insert "Sept. 27 Webinar" in the subject line. For press inquiries, please contact Katie Gorscak, FCC Office of Media Relations, by e-mail at <a href="mailto:Katie.Gorscak@fcc.gov">Katie.Gorscak@fcc.gov</a>.

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