

- (I) DEVELOPMENT OF AN INFANT MORTALITY PREVENTION STRATEGIC PLAN;
- (II) MONITORING OF ACTIVITIES INTENDED TO PREVENT INFANT MORTALITY;
- (III) RECOMMENDING LEGISLATIVE INITIATIVES;
- (IV) DESIGNING MODEL COMMUNITY-BASED PROGRAMS;
- AND
- (V) ADVISING LOCAL GOVERNMENT, LOCAL INSTITUTIONS, AND HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS OF THE STATUS OF INFANT MORTALITY IN THEIR REGION; ~~AND~~

(2) DEVELOP POLICIES AND STRATEGIES DESIGNED TO INCREASE THE AVAILABILITY OF SKILLED PROVIDERS FOR NEEDY CITIZENS OF MARYLAND BY AND RECOMMEND TO APPROPRIATE STATE AGENCIES AND OTHER CONCERNED ORGANIZATIONS INITIATIVES FOR:

- (I) EXPANDING NURSE MIDWIFERY AND NURSE PRACTITIONER PROGRAMS;
- (II) INVESTIGATING, FROM THE PHYSICIAN AND PATIENT PERSPECTIVE, THE REASONS FOR NONPARTICIPATION BY PHYSICIANS IN THE MARYLAND MEDICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM; AND
- (III) ASSURING ACCESS TO QUALITY PHYSICIAN AND ~~MID-LEVEL~~ OTHER HEALTH CARE PRACTITIONERS FOR MEDICAL ASSISTANCE PATIENTS AND PATIENT POPULATIONS IN RURAL COMMUNITIES;

(3) MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS TO ESTABLISH AND IMPLEMENT A PERINATAL SURVEILLANCE AND DATA COLLECTION SYSTEM ~~TO~~ THAT WILL:

- (I) ALLOW THE ONGOING MATCHING OF BIRTH AND DEATH CERTIFICATES IN A TIMELY FASHION; AND
- (II) ~~DESIGN AND CONDUCT AN IMMEDIATE CHART REVIEW OF ALL INFANT DEATHS AND ANY ADDITIONAL CHART REVIEWS NECESSARY TO STUDY INFANT MORTALITY WITH METHODOLOGY AND EXPERTISE FROM MARYLAND'S UNIVERSITIES~~ COLLECT INFORMATION NECESSARY TO STUDY INFANT MORTALITY INCLUDING CHART REVIEW OF INFANT DEATHS; AND

(4) ~~INVOLVE~~ SEEK THE ASSISTANCE OF THE BUSINESS COMMUNITY, PRIVATE HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS, LEGISLATORS, COMMUNITY GRASS ROOTS GROUPS, AND OTHERS CONCERNED WITH THE PROBLEM OF INFANT MORTALITY BY TO DEVELOP INITIATIVES DESIGNED TO: