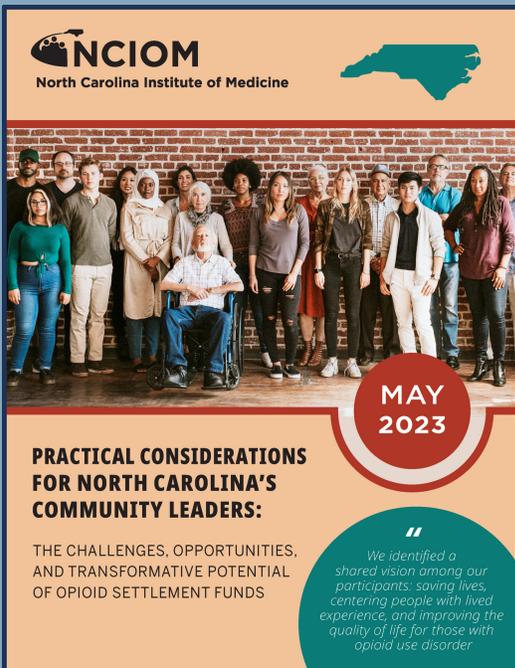


ANNUAL IMPACT REPORT

January 2024



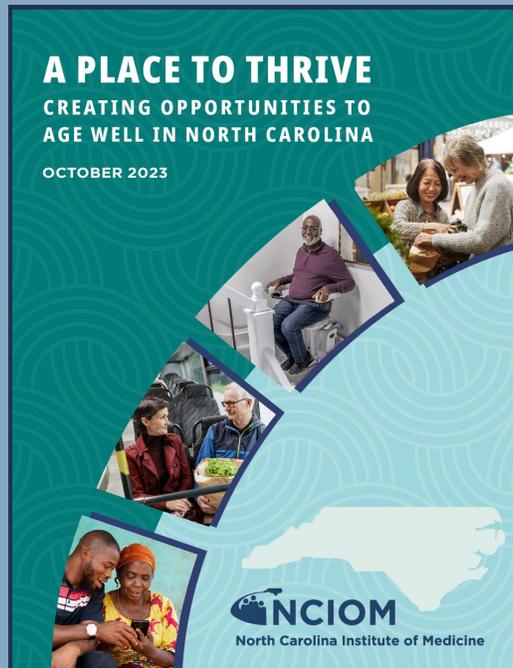
NCIOM
North Carolina Institute of Medicine

MAY 2023

PRACTICAL CONSIDERATIONS FOR NORTH CAROLINA'S COMMUNITY LEADERS:

THE CHALLENGES, OPPORTUNITIES, AND TRANSFORMATIVE POTENTIAL OF OPIOID SETTLEMENT FUNDS

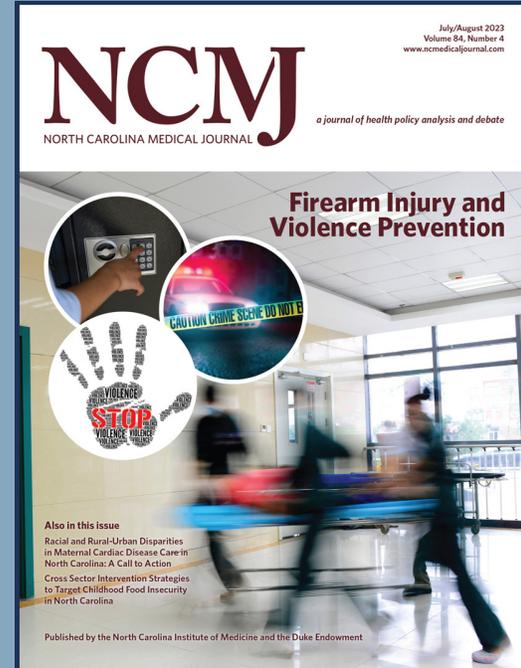
"We identified a shared vision among our participants: saving lives, centering people with lived experience, and improving the quality of life for those with opioid use disorder."



A PLACE TO THRIVE
CREATING OPPORTUNITIES TO AGE WELL IN NORTH CAROLINA

OCTOBER 2023

NCIOM
North Carolina Institute of Medicine



NCMJ
NORTH CAROLINA MEDICAL JOURNAL

July/August 2023
Volume 54, Number 4
www.ncmedicaljournal.com

a journal of health policy analysis and debate

Firearm Injury and Violence Prevention

STOP VIOLENCE

Also in this Issue

- Racial and Rural-Urban Disparities in Maternal Cardiac Disease Care in North Carolina: A Call to Action
- Cross Sector Intervention Strategies to Target Childhood Food Insecurity in North Carolina

Published by the North Carolina Institute of Medicine and the Duke Endowment

Letter from the President & CEO

Dear Colleagues,

This year, the North Carolina Institute of Medicine celebrated 40 years of serving our state. Through convening a broad range of state stakeholders, identifying actionable strategies to improve health, and providing research and data to inform policymaking, our work contributes to ensuring opportunities for health for all North Carolinians.



As we enter 2024 and reflect on the recent work of the NCIOM, several driving values of our work have emerged. First: the importance of partnerships and the power of relationships and collaboration to amplify and improve how we tackle solutions to the state's most pressing health care challenges. We see this value reflected in the many consensus recommendations from our task forces that promote joint strategies, bipartisan solutions, and coalition building.

Secondly, we understand the value that a diverse array of skills, contributions, and expertise gives to the NCIOM mission. We focus on hearing perspectives from those with lived experience of a health issue, providers of health and human services, community members, policymakers, and others. We seek to gain a richer understanding of the factors contributing to an issue and of the actions needed to address it.

And thirdly, we focus on bringing empathy to our discussions of complex health policy issues. From understanding the scheduling needs of a nurse balancing work and family demands, to listening to how family caregivers were impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, to understanding the impact of regulatory changes on small hospitals and providers, we know that the ability to relate to and communicate the human experience of policy and practice is key to making improvements and helping North Carolina be healthy and well.

We also enter 2024 saying goodbye to Kathy Colville, PhD, who is resigning from her role as President and CEO after three years of dedicated service to the NCIOM. Throughout her tenure, Kathy embodied the values of connection, diverse perspectives, and empathy in her work with the NCIOM team and with the many people and organizations that contribute to our work. Through our leadership transition, the staff and Board of Directors of the NCIOM are excited to continue to bring these values to our day-to-day operations and to see them play out in positive ways throughout our state. To all who contribute to the work of the NCIOM: thank you for bringing us your perspectives, your experiences, and your dedication to North Carolina – we couldn't do it without you.

Warm regards,



Michelle Ries, MPH
Interim President and CEO

Convening to Improve Outcomes

At the **2023 NCIOM Annual Meeting, *Promoting the Mental Health and Well-Being of Children and Youth: Solutions for a Brighter Future***, topics included upstream factors, prevention, and protective supports at the individual, family, and community levels. Sandy Chung, MD, FAAP, the 2023 President of the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP), gave the keynote address.



Sen. Sydney Batch (left), Rep. Carla Cunningham



L-R: Kelly Kimple, Betsey Tilson, Susan Mims

"I am so proud to say the NCIOM has a lot of evidence-based information; we just have to want to read it."
 - Rep. Carla Cunningham, BSN, RN



Prevent Child Abuse NC President & CEO Sharon Hirsch (left) and NCIOM President & CEO Kathy Colville



Clare Anderson, MSW (left) and Kristin O'Connor, EdM

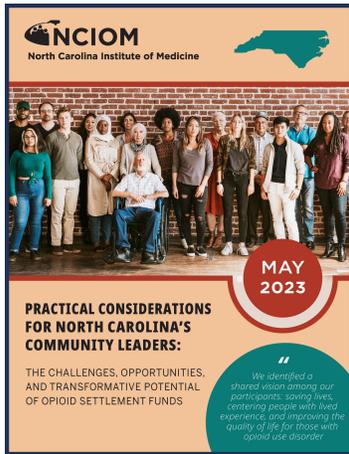
Convened by the NCIOM's Essentials for Childhood project in August, ***Economic Supports: A Path to Reduce Childhood Adversity*** provided an opportunity to learn from other southern states' investments in concrete supports for children and families.

The second annual **NCMJ Summer Symposium** convened authors, editors, researchers, and policymakers to discuss 2023 issue topics, including firearm violence prevention, children's mental health, and maternal health policy. Sen. Mike Woodard, Sen. Jim Burgin, and Rep. Donna White discussed the role of health research and analysis in their decision-making and answered audience questions.

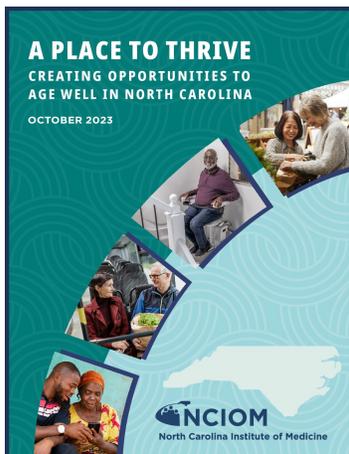
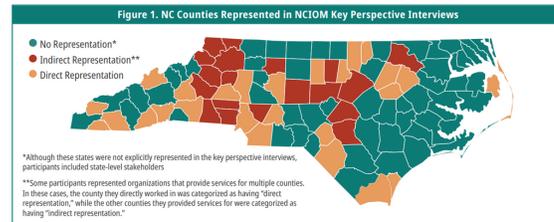


Sen. Jim Burgin (left), Sen. Mike Woodard (middle), Rep. Donna White (right)

Strategies for a Healthier State



Between December 2021 and October 2022, NCIOM staff spoke with 62 North Carolinians about their perspectives on challenges and opportunities for substance use education, prevention, and services. The resulting report, **Practical Considerations for North Carolina's Community Leaders**, represents a “snapshot in time” when the settlement funding was still new and important decisions and plans were starting to gel.



In October, we released of 12 recommendations supported by 30 total strategies for improving social connections, falls prevention, food and nutrition security, and mobility among aging North Carolinians. These recommendations, developed by the Task Force on Healthy Aging, have been published in a report titled **A Place to Thrive: Creating Opportunities to Age Well in North Carolina**.

“To say this is impressive is an understatement. Sincere congratulations and thanks to you and your team, the task force co-chairs, and all task force members. Let's hope this product gets the exposure and attention it deserves.”
 - Ed Rosenberg, PhD, Dept. of Sociology, Appalachian State University
 Member, Task Force on Healthy Aging

Recommendations in Action

The legislation and introduced bills listed below refer to or otherwise address recommendations from North Carolina Institute of Medicine task forces. Though the NCIOM does not directly advocate for policy change or legislation, implementation of recommendations is one measure of our impact.

Medicaid Expansion

Related work: Carolinas Pandemic Preparedness Task Force; Task Force on the Future of Local Public Health in NC; Task Force on Serious Illness Care; Task Force on Developing a Perinatal System of Care; and Healthy NC 2030.

An Act to Make Various Changes to Health Care Laws and to Appropriate Funds for Health Care Programs (S 20)

Related work: Essentials for Childhood; Task Force on Maternal Health; Recommendations from the Carolinas Pandemic Preparedness Task Force

Alzheimer's Public Health Ed Improvement Act (H 868) Make North Carolina More Dementia-Capable (H 837)

Related work: Dementia-Capable North Carolina

Update Reqs./Advance Health Care Directives (H 739)

Related work: Improving Serious Illness Care in North Carolina

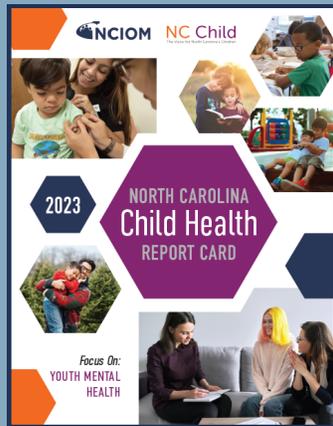
Hospital Violence Protection Act (H 809)

Related work: Carolinas Pandemic Preparedness

Health Policy Action & Analysis

In 2023, the *North Carolina Medical Journal* published six issues of health policy analysis and research from experts and decision-makers across the state. Each issue culminated in a virtual or in-person event where authors, editors, and colleagues gathered to discuss new opportunities and solutions.

The NCMJ and our designer Angie Dickinson were awarded with a **2023 GDUSA Digital Design Award** for the March/April and July/August issues.



On April 4th, NC Child and the NCIOM released the *2023 Child Health Report Card*. Since 1997, this biannual report has presented 15 key indicators of child health. In 2023, North Carolina earned failing grades in several key areas, including Mental Health, School Health, Housing & Economic Security, and Birth Outcomes. However, the state is making progress in other areas, including Preconception Health, Maternal Health Support, and Substance Use.



NCIOM has provided convening support alongside NC AHEC and the UNC Sheps Center Program on Health Workforce Research and Policy to develop the new North Carolina Center on the Workforce for Health. This new center will provide a forum for health employers, workers, educators, regulators, policymakers, and others throughout North Carolina to convene, discuss challenges and opportunities, share best practices and lessons learned, identify potential solutions and metrics for success, and monitor progress toward addressing these challenges.

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Kate B. Reynolds Charitable Trust
North Carolina Pandemic Recovery Office
HopeStar Foundation

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Atrium Health Wake Forest Baptist
WNC Bridge Foundation
United Health Care
Dogwood Health Trust
North Carolina Dental Society
North Carolina Healthcare Association
RTI
UNC Health Care



NCIOM Board Members (L-R on screen): Timothy Norris, Danny Scalise, Peter Morris, Perrin Jones. (L-R in room): Lawrence Nycum, Reuben Blackwell, Richard Montague, Adam Sholar, Lori Byrd, John Morrow, William Way, Vickie Bradley, Carrie Rosario, David Sousa

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