Worksheet SWOT Analysis



In prenatal care, labor and delivery and postpartum care in Montana, address the lack of patient access to care, distance to care.

Strengths

What do you do well? What unique resources can you draw on? What do others see as your strengths?

- -Riverstone residency program, as well as Western Montana residency program, places family practice providers in Montana, stay local. Many interested in OB.
- -Strong midwifery programs, both lay and certified.
- -Most women have access to insurance, including Medicaid, private insurance, or IHS. Most providers take Medicaid patients.

Weaknesses

What could you improve? Where do you have fewer resources than others? What are others likely to see as weaknesses?

- -Distance patients have to travel.
- -Lack of transportation, cost of transportation.
- -Counties where the birthrate is the highest are the counties that have the greatest need, economically, medically, etc. Higher need —> less resources.
- -Loss of OB at Crow hospital (could be opportunity).

Opportunities

What opportunities are open to you?
What trends could you take advantage of?
How can you turn your strengths into opportunities?

- -Leveraging midwife programs. Other countries, such as Canada and Australia, rely heavily on lay midwife model.
 Look at inviting midwives to the table to discuss access.
- -Look at safe handoff protocols from other countries, states.
- -Train indigenous midwives... look at Canada, Australia, Afghanistan models.
- -Increase confidence and skill level of OB providers and related care, such as urgent care, ED.
- -Investigate role of EMS services and transfer in terms of rural hospitals
- -Look at number of births occuring outside of hospitals

Threats

What threats could harm you?
What is your competition doing?
What threats do your weaknesses expose you to?

-General trend of reduction in OB services in rural communities, including in IHS hospitals.