## Health Policy Updates from the Governor's Office

### Zaida Dedolph Piecoro, MPH

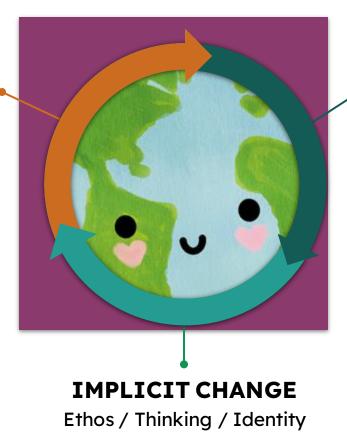


# Why change policy?

## Changing the world is hard.

#### **EXPLICIT CHANGE**

Policy / Practice / Payment



#### **RELATIONAL CHANGE**

Communication / Interaction

## **Governor Hobbs' Priorities:**

- Healthcare that is **Accessible** to everyone.
- Treatment that is **Affordable** to anyone in need.
- Providers that are **Accountable** for delivering quality.
- People have the **Freedom** and **Information** they need to make healthcare decisions.

### The past two years:

- Executive Orders protecting repro rights, LGBTQ+ individuals
- Paid parental leave pilot program for state employees
- Addressed rampant abuse & fraud in Medicaid fee-for-service
- Expanded KidsCare eligibility
- Took steps to allow pharmacists to dispense birth control
- Vetoed dozens of anti-vaccine bills
- Repealed a pre-statehood near-total abortion ban



AZ

### The past two years:



### Medical Debt

- Appointed a Chief Heat Officer
- Comprehensive health licensing reform
- Medical debt relief initiative
- New policies to improve reproductive & prenatal care in Medicaid
- Review of EHB Benchmark plan
- Reproductive rights website launch
- Talent Ready AZ to address workforce development initiative
- Traditional Healing coverage
- Justice Waiver
- Record investments in housing affordability







#### **BIG ISSUES:**

- Prop. 123 & Education Funding
- Avian Flu
- Federal Executive Orders / Funding Freeze
- Proposed Federal Budget Cuts
- SNAP/WIC/TANF
- Sensitive Area ICE enforcement
- Director confirmations
- DDD funding
- Surely more to come.



### **2025 Executive Priorities:**

- **Protect federal Medicaid funding.**
- Family planning option AHCCCS
- 12-month contraceptive dispensing
- Right to contraception & fertility treatment
- Implement health licensing reform
- Protect health & safety net programs



• Prioritize quality care

