CROSS-SECTOR COLLABORATIONS TO ADDRESS MATERNAL MORTALITY IN LOUISIANA

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WHERE OUR JOURNEY BEGAN

GOVERNOR’S OFFICE ON WOMEN’S POLICY

• Priority of Governor John Bel Edwards
• Priority of Louisiana Department of Health

READ THE RESEARCH

HEALTHY MOMS, HEALTHY BABIES ADVISORY COUNCIL

• Act 497 of the 2018 Regular Session
• Rep. Stephanie Hilferty (2019 MCH Fellow) and Sen. Regina Barrow
• Focused on ensuring LA’s efforts included an equity focus informed by community
• Made up of legislators, state agencies, providers, doulas, midwives, medical associations, March of Dimes, home visiting, DV advocates, etc.

LISTENED TO EXPERTS
CALLING ALL SECTORS

• Health Impact Project
• Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and The Pew Charitable Trusts
• Work to create lasting culture and infrastructure change across multiple state agencies and with a non-governmental partner
• Louisiana focus: Maternal Mortality

INITIAL CORE TEAM MEMBERS

• Louisiana Department of Children and Family Services [state]
• Louisiana Department of Health [state]
• Louisiana Housing Corporation [state]
• Governor’s Office on Women’s Policy [state]
• Children’s Cabinet [state]
• Louisiana Partnership for Children and Families [non-profit]

WHERE COLLABORATION WAS BORN

LEARNED TOGETHER AND ExploRED OPPORTUNITIES
Root causes

Existing services

Expertise at the table

Who are we missing

 WHERE ARE WE DOING

Where are the gaps
Maternal Mortality in Louisiana

- Maternal Mortality
- Severe Maternal Morbidity
- Prevention
- Evidence-based Recommendations
- Existing Efforts
- Pew's Calling All Sectors
# Opportunities for Impact

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<th>Providers</th>
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| **Before Pregnancy** | • Chronic conditions  
• Contraception use | • Cultural competency  
• Screening | • Social determinants of health |
| **During Pregnancy**   | • Educate on warning signs/risks  
• Appropriate care | • Cultural competency  
• Early screening for problems | • Access to risk appropriate care  
• Non-clinical supports |
| **At or Around Delivery** | • Educate on warning signs/when to seek help | • Safety bundles  
• Timely and safe referrals | • Reimbursements for doulas |
| **Up to One Year After Delivery** | • Ensure postpartum visit  
• Note pregnancy history | • Training for non-OB providers  
• Transitions to care | • Non-clinical supports  
• Postpartum coverage extension |
## OPPORTUNITIES FOR IMPACT

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PATIENTS AND FAMILIES

#BLACKMAMAJOY CAMPAIGN

• Centered on social determinants of health
• Interactive and uplifting Black maternal wellness community conversations

CELEBRATED, EMPOWERED, UPLIFTED, INFORMED

WARNING SIGNS

• POST-BIRTH Warning Signs (AWHONN)
• HEAR HER Campaign (CDC)

PROVIDED CONSISTENT MESSAGING THROUGH CLINICAL PROVIDERS
FOCUS GROUP WITH DOULAS AND BIRTHING PERSONS

• In partnership with Healthy Moms, Healthy Babies Advisory Council
• Led to Messaging Tool to help inform provider communication with patients

INFORMED HOW WE DISCUSS THE ISSUE WITHOUT INDUCING BLAME OR FEAR

COVID-RELATED NEEDS

• Pivot based on COVID-19
• Provided for needs of quarantined families who were pregnant or postpartum
• The highest need for all clients was cleaning supplies, but for pregnant clients was food

INFORMED EMERGENT NEEDS
PREGNANT WORKERS FAIRNESS

- Expansive coalition of partners
- Negotiations with business lobby

ALLOWED LA TO WORK ON SOLUTIONS OUTSIDE OF THE CLINICAL SPACE

OTHER POLICIES

- Domestic Abuse Fatality Review Panel

POTENTIAL ADDITIONAL STRATEGIES

- Extended postpartum coverage
- Universally available voluntary home visiting
- Rental protection for COVID evictions
- Reimbursements for doulas
PARTNERS

BEGINNING

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• Louisiana Department of Health [state]
• Louisiana Housing Corporation [state]
• Governor’s Office on Women’s Policy [state]
• Children’s Cabinet [state]
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PARTNERS

• LA Perinatal Quality Collaborative
• Healthy Moms, Healthy Babies
• Amandla Group
• Volunteers of America Southeast Louisiana
• Institute for Women and Ethnic Studies
• Louisiana Coalition Against Domestic Violence
• March of Dimes
• Office of Public Health, Bureau of Family Health
• A Better Balance
• Louisiana Budget Project
• Power Coalition for Equity and Justice
• American Heart Association
• Medicine Louisiana
• Workplace Justice Project at Loyola Law Clinic
• Agenda for Children
• National Birth Equity Collaborative
• LSU Health Sciences Center
• New Orleans MCH Coalition
• United Way Southeast Louisiana
• Businesses

AND MORE!