

Directory of African American Infant Mortality Efforts in Hennepin and Ramsey Counties

PREPARED BY THE U.S.-BORN AFRICAN AMERICAN INFANT MORTALITY PROJECT, MDH CENTER
FOR HEALTH EQUITY

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About the Directory

This directory was created as a handout for the Black Birth Summit (BBS) held on September 17, 2019 sponsored by the Minnesota Department of Health’s Center for Health Equity (CHE) and Community Voices and Solutions (CVAS). It contains the names and contact information of individuals who registered for the summit and who agreed to have their information included in a directory. CVAS is the community leadership team of CHE’s African American Infant Mortality Project funded by the federal Office of Minority Health. Members organized the event after expressing concerns about the dearth of information regarding infant mortality work around the state, and the need to work more collaboratively rather than in silos. This directory is a starting point for organizations to connect with one another and understand how our collective strengths and resources can lead to sustainable change.

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Academic Institution

NAME	MISSION	OVERVIEW OF INFANT MORTALITY RELATED WORK	CONTACT
Saint Paul Public Schools	To support lasting achievement for all early learners. Supporting Saint Paul's Pre-Kindergarten and Kindergarten programs through active engagement with children, families and school staff.	Formation of Early Learning Coalitions (Community-based organizations in St. Paul that support positive outcomes for young children and families).	Mary Mischke, Partnership Coordinator mary.mischke@spps.org , 612-597-3079 Nikole Logan, Supervisor, PreK Family Engagement and Community Partnerships nikole.logan@spps.org , 651-216-2173 1930 Como Ave St. Paul, MN 55108
University of Minnesota School of Public Health, Division of Epidemiology & Community Health	To improve the health of the public through state-of-the art teaching, translation of research into practice, and training of the next generation of public health professionals.	Research in residential segregation and preterm birth. Current project examines the role of adverse and traumatic experiences in population health.	Susan Mason, Assistant Professor smmason@umn.edu 1300 S 2nd Street, Suite 300 Minneapolis, MN 55454
University of Minnesota School of Public Health, Division of Epidemiology & Community Health	To improve the health of the public through state-of-the art teaching, translation of research into practice, and training of the next generation of public health professionals.	Research focuses on social meaning of race and skin color and how they intersect with other aspects of social identity to affect maternal and infant health, in order to, create interdisciplinary community-based solutions focused on building healthier and more equitable communities	Jaime Slaughter-Acey, Assistant Professor jslaught@umn.edu , 612-625-8357 1300 South Second St, Suite 300 Minneapolis, MN 55454

University of Minnesota School of Public Health, Division of Health Policy & Management	Through excellence in education, research, and community engagement, the University of Minnesota School of Public Health advances health - from scientific discovery to public impact - by enhancing population health and preventing disease in the United States and globally.	Research focuses on health policy issues that relate to pregnancy and childbirth. The overall goal is to contribute to the evidence base for clinical and policy strategies to advance racial, gender, and geographic equity and to collaborate with stakeholders in making policy change in order to facilitate improved health and well-being, beginning at birth.	Katy Kozhimannil, Associate Professor kbk@umn.edu , 612-626-3812 420 Delaware St SE, MMC 729 Minneapolis, MN 55455
University of Minnesota School of Public Health, Division of Health Policy & Management	Through excellence in education, research, and community engagement, the University of Minnesota School of Public Health advances health - from scientific discovery to public impact - by enhancing population health and preventing disease in the United States and globally.	Health equity researcher with focus on the role of the clinician, health care delivery stems, and the policy environment in reducing disparities in outcomes and quality of health care.	Rachel Hardeman, Assistant Professor Hard0222@umn.edu , 612-626-2803 420 Delaware St SE, MMC 729 Minneapolis, MN 55455
University of Minnesota, School of Nursing	To generate knowledge and prepare nurse leaders who will create, lead, and participate in holistic efforts to improve the health of all people within the context of their environments. Vision: The School of Nursing envisions a world where nurses lead collaborative efforts to attain optimal health for all people.	Educating Certified Nurse Midwives - In this curriculum, students are taught to recognize causes and issues related to African American maternal, neonatal, and infant mortality. The faculty is currently developing curriculum and content specifically related to racism, bias, and health disparities.	Carrie Neerland, Assistant Professor; Certified Nurse-Midwife neerland@umn.edu , 651-338-8307 5-140 Weaver Densford Hall 308 Harvard St SE Minneapolis, MN 55455

Corporation

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Taylor & Mensah In-Homecare Inc	To provide tailored & dignified quality care to clients in their own homes.	Started by black nurse educators who have worked in the area of maternal/newborn health. Organization is exploring a partnership with March of Dimes to provide group prenatal care to the underserved populations in the Twin cities area.	Ekua Taylor Kregel, Owner Ekua@taylormensahcare.com , 612-201-1290 23 Empire Dr. St Paul, MN 55041
Welcome Baby Care	To serve people bringing newborns into their families.	This postpartum doula certification aims to bring more postpartum doulas of color to the twin cities metro to support all families.	Tory Kielas-Jensen, Owner tory@welcomebabycare.com , 612-889-4664 7900 International Dr. Bloomington, MN 55425

Elected Official

NAME	MISSION	OVERVIEW OF INFANT MORTALITY RELATED WORK	CONTACT
Minnesota House of Representatives	N/A	Pass legislation related to infant mortality.	Ruth Richardson, Representative, Member from 52B rep.ruth.richardson@house.mn , 651-329-2334 100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Blvd. St. Paul, MN 55155-1298

Foundation

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Minneapolis Foundation	Catalyst's purpose is to honor and foster culturally authentic self-care practices to advance health and well-being.	Catalyst has been supporting community healing practices in the African American community for 5 years through training, seed grants and convenings.	Suzanne Koepplinger, Director of Catalyst Initiative skoepplinger@mplsfoundation.org , 612-672-3840 800 IDS Center, 80 South 8th Street Minneapolis, MN 55402
Women's Foundation of Minnesota	Mission: The Women's Foundation of Minnesota invests in innovation to drive gender equity in Minnesota. Vision: A world of equal opportunity where women and girls - and all people - hold the power to create and lead safe, prosperous lives	The Women's Foundation creates impact through Research, Grantmaking, Policy, and Cross-Sector Partnerships. They use an intersectional framework inclusive of race and gender and when doing so they support those who are most marginalized. When this foundation impacts women of color, they are also impacting their children, families and communities.	Brook LaFloe, Young Women's Initiative Program Manager brook@wfmn.org , 651-605-1492 105 5th avenue S, 300 Minneapolis, MN 55401

Local/State/Tribal Government

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City of Minneapolis Health Department	The Minneapolis Health Department improves the quality of life for all people in the city by protecting the environment, preventing disease and injury, promoting healthy behaviors and creating a city that is a health place to work, live, and play.	Minneapolis Health Department contracts with various community agencies to provide perinatal home visiting and prenatal support services such as doulas. These services are not population specific but are targeted to populations disproportionately impacted i.e. Black, Hispanic and American Indian.	Coral Garner, Division Director MCAH coral.garner@minneapolismn.gov 612-919-3856 250 South 4th Street Minneapolis, MN 55104
Hennepin County Project CHILD	Hennepin County Project CHILD provides case management for pregnant women who struggle with chemicals.	This program does referrals for resources and provides support. They also have educational and pre and post-natal support groups.	Cindy Fleming, Chemical Health Counselor Cindy.fleming@hennepin.us 612-879-3674 Rebekah Butz, Intake Coordinator Rebekah.butz@hennepin.us , 612-879-3609 Dar Swanson, Peer Recovery Specialist dar.swanson@mntc.org 1800 Chicago Ave So Minneapolis, MN 55404
Hennepin County Public Health	Hennepin County Public Health works to improve and protect the health of people who live, learn, work or play in the county.	They provide outreach and support to high-risk pregnant and parenting families.	Angela Watts, Area Manager angela.watts@hennepin.us , 763-202-2904 525 Portland Avenue Minneapolis, MN 55402
Minnesota Department of Health, Family Home Visiting	Protect the health of Minnesota	Oversee home visiting programs across the state that seek to decrease infant mortality, promote healthy development,	Dawn Reckinger, Manager dawn.reckinger@state.mn.us 651-201-4841 85 7th Place E.

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		and encourage safe, stable and nurturing environments for all children.	Plymouth, MN 55164
Minnesota Department of Health, Maternal and Child Health	Mission - Protecting, maintaining and improving the health of all Minnesotans Vision - The MDH vision is for health equity in Minnesota, where all communities are thriving and all people have what they need to be healthy.	Infant Mortality Reduction Project, Title V MCH Block Grant assessment, plan and report on activities to improve infant health	Kathryn Linde, Women and Infant Health Supervisor kathryn.m.linde@state.mn.us 651-201-5010 85 E 7th Place, Suite 220 Saint Paul, MN 55164
Minnesota Department of Health, Public Health Practice	Protecting, maintaining and improving the health of all Minnesotans	Work in collaboration with African American leaders, groups and organizations, providing support, resources and tools.	Marisol Chiclana-Ayala, Community Engagement Planner marisol.chiclana-ayala@state.mn.us 651-201-3876 625 N. Robert Street St. Paul, MN 55110
Minnesota Department of Health, State Infant Mortality Reduction Initiative	All babies are born healthy, to healthy parents in healthy communities, and are given equal opportunities to thrive and survive to age one and beyond.	The State's Infant Mortality Reduction Initiative at the Minnesota Department of Health provides statewide leadership around improving birth outcomes and reducing infant mortality in all communities across Minnesota.	Michelle Chiezah, State Infant Health and Mortality Reduction Specialist Michelle.chiezah@state.mn.us 651-201-3621 85 E 7th Place, Suite 220 Saint Paul, MN 55164
Minnesota Department of Health, WIC Program	Protecting, maintaining and improving the health of all Minnesotans	Fund and provide resources to WIC Programs across the state to provide nutrition services to eligible families. WIC services include health and nutrition education, breastfeeding support, supplemental nutritious foods, and referrals to community services.	Kate Franken, State WIC Director kate.franken@state.mn.us , 651-201-4403 85 E 7th Place, Suite 220 Saint Paul, MN 55164
MN Governor's Children's Cabinet	Minnesota's Children's Cabinet was established in 1993 and is a broad interagency partnership that utilizes a	The Cabinet examines programs, policies and practices to ensure that we promote equity for all children and do not deepen	Brenda Sanchez, Coordinator Brenda.sanchez@state.mn.us Jenny Moses, Program Manager

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	whole family approach to support the healthy development of children and families. The Children's Cabinet works to bring efficiency and effectiveness to state government efforts to improve child and youth outcomes. The work of the Cabinet can also involve collaboration with counties, local communities and other stakeholders.	the disparities experienced by children of color, indigenous children, and children in greater Minnesota. The Cabinet works to center government decision-making on children and families and make recommendations on how to improve our systems collectively. By aligning strategies, programs and services, the Cabinet seeks to create a more efficient and effective government.	Jennifer.moses@state.mn.us 75 Rev Dr Martin Luther King Jr Blvd #130 St. Paul, MN 55155
Ramsey County Public Health	Healthy people, communities and environments in Ramsey County	Ramsey County is dedicated to preventing infant mortality in the African American community through health education and proving Black families with resources in the community. There is also specific workgroup to help the county define culturally specific services and programs for African Americans.	LaSherion McDonald, Health Educator lasherion.mcdonald@CO.RAMSEY.MN.U 651-785-6916 Antonia Apolinario-Wilcoxon, Ed.D. Community Engagement Specialist antonia.wilcoxon@ramseycounty.us 651-266-2403 90 Plato Blvd. West, Suite 200 Saint Paul, MN 55107
Ramsey County WIC	WIC is a supplemental food, nutrition, and breastfeeding program that helps eligible pregnant women, new mothers, babies and young children eat well and learn about nutrition and stay healthy.	One of the goals of the Ramsey County WIC program is to address breastfeeding disparities within the African American Community and partner with community to educate and support families with breastfeeding which can help decrease infant mortality.	Stephanie Johnson, Breastfeeding Peer Counselor Stephanie.Johnson@co.ramsey.mn.us 313-598-7957 555 Cedar St St. Paul, MN 55101
SPRCPH-Family Health (Birth Equity Community Council)	Mission: A county of excellence working with you to enhance our quality of life. Vision: A vibrant community where all are valued & thrive.	*Club Mom & Club Dad-monthly parenting support groups for parents with children 0-5yrs. *Birth Equity Community Council (BECC) - Authentic Community engaged collaborative that is data driven	Tamiko Ralston, PHN-Clinician tamiko.ralston@co.ramsey.mn.us 651-266-1585 1670 Beam Ave. (Ste. 101) Maplewood, MN 55109

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		(Qualitative & Quantitative), engages in racial healing activities and is focused on public health strategies to reduce inequities in birth outcomes. Participants are community residents, Club participants and partners in birth equity at state & local levels and from public and private sectors.	

Medical/Clinical Care

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Allina Health	Mission: Allina Health serves its communities by providing exceptional care, as they prevent illness, restore health and provide comfort to all who entrust us with their care.	At The Mother Baby Center, pregnancy, childbirth and neonatal experts provide a unique, personalized experience and top-notch care throughout the childbirth journey. This center offers labor and delivery care for routine and high-risk pregnancies; home health services, integrative services, newborn care, and pain management services with non-medicinal options. For families whose babies need higher levels of care, they offer neonatal intensive care provided by pediatric experts from Children's Minnesota.	Lisa Archer, Patient Care Director, The Mother Baby Center lisa.archer@allina.com , 651-241-6284 333 Smith Ave St. Paul, MN 55102
Black Moon Bodywork	Black Moon Bodywork LLC invites women in community leadership - femmes & families, heads of households and heads	Bodywork and coaching / health education in nutrition, exercise, mindfulness, and community building for	Ihotu Ali, Owner & Founder, Bodyworker and Doula Blackmoonbodywork@gmail.com

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	of organizations - into spaces for healing, resilience, and vision. From bodywork and coaching in indigenous practices, to wilderness retreats, to emerging public health research and policy, this work is rooted in traditions of the Black Diaspora and carried forward by the vision work of Afrofuturism.	women and femmes with reproductive health issues such as painful periods, endometriosis, or infertility, through pregnancy, and into postpartum recovery.	952-212-4499 406 Cedar Lake Road S Minneapolis, MN 55405
Children's Health Network			Tamika Lasege, MD, Physician and Medical Director Tamika.lasege@childrensmn.org
Fairview Health Services - Fairview Ridges Hospital	Mission: Fairview is driven to heal, discover, and educate for longer, healthier lives. Vision: Fairview is driving a healthier future.	Identifying historical data and current state within our organization.	Nancy Misurek, Nursing Director nmisure1@fairview.org , 612-220-7917 201 E Nicollet Blvd Burnsville, MN 55337
Hennepin Healthcare	Hennepin Healthcare partners with community, patients and their families to ensure access to outstanding care while improving health and wellness through teaching patient and community education, and research	The organization is in the process of developing a culturally responsible group prenatal care model for US born African American women. The curriculum will include cultural perspectives throughout the teachings and will be piloted in either late 2019 or early 2020.	Pat Schaffner, Community Health Programs Liaison Patricia.schaffner@hcmcd.org Dominique Jones, CNM Jone0821@umn.edu , 763-232-2336 730 S 8 th St Minneapolis, MN 55415
HealthPartners Clinic – Health Center for Women			Susannah Okutoro-Ketter, CNM 917-470-0518 Luis Cannon, APRN, CNM 612-669-0796 2635 University Ave, #160 St. Paul, MN 55114
Kelly McGregory Pediatrics LLC	To provide primary healthcare for infants, children, adolescents and young adults in a small and welcoming clinic.	Participant in Community Voices and Solutions (CVAS), an MDH infant mortality project leadership team	Kelly McGregory, Physician Owner DrKelly@kmpediatrics.org , 763-432-9788 6000 Bass Lake Rd Suite 102 Crystal, MN 55419

NAME	MISSION	OVERVIEW OF INFANT MORTALITY RELATED WORK	CONTACT
Minnesota Community Care-DIVA Moms	To reduce pre-term birth and low birth weight for US-born African American moms by offering safe and culturally reflective care.	DIVA Moms offers safe, supportive, and culturally reflective pre & postnatal care by addressing and magnifying how structural and systemic racism leads to SDOH, which negatively impact birth outcomes.	Diane Banigo, Co-Director and Project Manager dbanigo@mncare.org , 651-793-2272 Sonja Batalden, Director of Perinatal Care sbatalden@mncare.org , 651-602-7565 Kindra D McGee, Patient Navigator kmcgee@mncare.org , 651-202-1116 Nicole Stephan, AmeriCorps VISTA DIVA Ambassador nstephan@mncare.org , 651-772-9757 895 E. 7th Street St Paul, MN 55106
NorthPoint/Chosen Vessels Midwifery	To encourage all women to breastfeed and support all those that do.	Promote.Support.Advocate Breastfeeding	Dr. Lavonne Moore, Provider Kemetcircle@hotmail.com 612-850-0016 1313 Penn Av N Minneapolis, MN 55411
Open Cities Health Center	To provide quality healthcare to everyone regardless of ability to pay.	Open Cities runs Nubian Moms which is a drop-in service for resources for African American women who are pregnant for mothers of children up to 1 years old.	Ciana Cullens, Outreach ciana.cullens@opencitieshealth.org 651-428-9636 Isha Mohamed, Women's Health Coordinator isha.mohamed@hotmail.com , 651-251-5987 409 Dunlap St. St Paul, MN 55104
Regions Hospital-HealthPartners	Health as it could be, affordability as it must be, through relationships built on trust.	Regions Hospital Birth Center has created a vision of care based on three pillars. High reliability (Quality of care), Family centered care and Health equity.	Rochelle Johnson, Director of Nursing Rochelle.L.johnson@Healthpartners.com 651-254-3581 601 Jackson Street St. Paul, MN 55101

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University of Minnesota Physicians	We focus on improving the lives of our patients with collaborative care, breakthrough research and by training tomorrow's physicians. We are University of Minnesota Physicians, the multi-specialty group practice for the University of Minnesota Medical School faculty.	Jennifer works in perinatal equity and believes in amplifying the praxis of honoring client agency, autonomy and choice and providing evidence-based care. She is preparing for implementation of the AIM QI Bundle in Reducing Peripartum Racial and Ethnic health disparities. She practices with Women's Health Specialists/University of Minnesota Physicians and is Adjunct Clinical Faculty at the University of Minnesota School of Medicine.	Jennifer Almanza, CNM, Health Equity Research-Activist alman054@umn.edu , 651-332-1225 1002 Livingston Ave, West Saint Paul, MN 55118

Nonprofit

NAME	MISSION	OVERVIEW OF INFANT MORTALITY RELATED WORK	CONTACT
African American Babies Coalition (AABC)	African American families and communities will claim their cultural heritage so that their babies will thrive, excel and lead us into the future.	AABC is a group of African American community stakeholders including educators, nonprofit and civic leaders, researchers, childcare providers, parents and grandparents, and public health professionals, from across the Twin Cities committed to promoting the healthy development of African American babies.	Sameerah Bilal-Roby, AABC Project Director sameerah@africanamericanbabies.org 1-800-550-7195 Amherst H. Wilder Foundation 451 Lexington Parkway N. Saint Paul, MN 55104
Aviellah Curriculum and Consulting	To create strength based learning opportunities that support healthy narrative in African American community.	Developing a youth led course that empowers 15 to 24 year olds to learn and share knowledge around the African-American Infant Mortality Rate.	Rebecca Nathan, Course Developer/Educator/Consultant aviellahcc@gmail.com 901-691-0423 1425 11th Ave N

NAME	MISSION	OVERVIEW OF INFANT MORTALITY RELATED WORK	CONTACT
			Minneapolis, MN 55411
Children's Defense Fund-MN	The Children's Defense Fund Leave No Child Behind® mission is to ensure every child a Healthy Start, a Head Start, a Fair Start, a Safe Start and a Moral Start in life and successful passage to adulthood with the help of caring families and communities.	Through the Voices and Choices for Children Coalition, we have advocated for and passed equitable policies (Community Solutions Grant Program) to improve outcomes for children of color and American Indian children.	May Esperanza Losloso, Senior Organizer mlosloso@childrensdefense.org 651-503-6934 555 Park Street, Suite 410 Saint Paul, MN 55103
Cultural Wellness Center	To unleash the power of citizens to heal themselves and build community.	Building community and strong family systems help to decrease infant mortality.	Akhmiri Sekhr-Ra, Chief Program Officer akhmiri@culturalwellnesscenter.org 612-721-5745 2025 Portland Ave. S. Minneapolis, MN 55404
Headway Emotional Health	Empowering people of all ages to live an emotionally healthy life	Infant parent support/ infant mental health	Minwendam Shashana Craft, Family Spirit Home Visiting Educator shashana.craft@gmail.com 651-325-9267 Erin Hansen, Supervisor, Healthy Families and Family Spirit Erin.Hansen@Headway.org 612-798-8195 6425 Nicollet Ave S Richfield, MN 55311

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MAD DADS of Minneapolis	Defending Against Drugs and Social Disorder (MAD DADS) seeks to bring about positive change, and encourages, motivates and guides committed men and women in the struggle to save children, communities and themselves from the social ills that presently plague neighborhoods.	MAD DADS employ strategies to engage parents in the intervention and prevention of community problems, and is designed to attract, challenge, and prepare them to be vocal, visible, and vigilant in restoring safe communities and healthy families.	VJ Smith, CEO vjsmith@minneapolismaddads.org 612-822-0802 3026 4th Avenue South Minneapolis, MN 55408
March of Dimes	The mission of the March of Dimes is to improve the health of babies by preventing birth defects, premature birth, and infant mortality. The organization works towards its mission through education, advocacy, and research focused at prenatal health, genetics and birth defects.	March of Dimes leads the fight for the health of all moms and babies, believing that every baby deserves the best possible start. Unfortunately, not all babies get one, and we hope to change that through pregnancy support efforts, advocacy for policies that prioritize maternal-child perinatal health, radical improvements to care, and pioneering research.	Tammy Sinkfield-Morey, Volunteer ptsink@gillettechildresn.com 651-470-4027 8000 W 78th St. #330 Edina, MN 55439
Minnesota Perinatal Organization (MPO)	Our Mission is to optimize perinatal health in Minnesota through education.	MPO is co-leading the Minnesota Perinatal Quality Collaborative. The Minnesota Perinatal Quality Collaborative (MNPQC) seeks to improve maternal and infant health outcomes with an emphasis on racial and ethnic health inequities. Current initiatives include Preterm Birth Reduction, Treatment of Hypertension in Pregnancy and the Postpartum Period, and Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome.	Susan Boehm, Executive Director susan.boehm@minnesotaperinatal.org 612-201-0708 18024 Turtle Court Cold Spring, MN 56320

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Minnesota Prison Doula Project/MileStone Creations/Sierra's Sparkle Shop/WIC	To provide family supportive services surrounded around prenatal and postpartum care.	Provide prenatal and postpartum care to families as they are incarcerated as well as transitioning from prison to the community.	Sierra Williams, Doula/Owner/Breastfeeding Peer sierraleonewilliams@gmail.com 612-558-9453 7914 Van Buren St Spring Lake Park, MN 55432
New Americans Alliance for Development (NAAD)	NAAD's Mission is to empower New Americans for local and global development. NAAD envisions that New Americans will prosper and develop in MN and assist in the development of their native land.	NAAD provides career guidance and support to New Americans, immigrant, international medical graduates, in order for them to get recertified and practice their professions in MN thus diversifying MN health workforce to decrease health disparities, including that which is apparent in African American infant mortality.	Wilhelmina Holder, Director of Programs finaholder@gmail.com , 651-226-0429 Simon Carvalho, Medical Graduate simplemedicine@hotmail.com 651-699-4473 1821 University Ave. West, Suite 328-South St. Paul, MN 55104
National Black Nurse Practitioner Association	Our mission is to empower the advancement of APRNs in their profession, fostering social fellowship among members and serve as philanthropists.	Patient education at the community level.	Shirlynn LaChapelle, Member shirlynn7@gmail.com , 612-382-0431 9654 Harbor Lane N. Maple Grove, MN 55369

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NorthPoint Health & Wellness Center, Inc.	Partnering to create a healthy community.	NorthPoint is part of Integrated Care for High Risk Pregnancies (ICHRP) for African American women which focuses on reducing infant mortality and reducing low birth weight babies. They also work with pregnant and post-partum women to provide culturally specific birth and afterbirth support.	Tee McClenty, Project Manager, CPPM tmccclenty@npimn.org , 612-767-9155 LaShonda Washington, Community Health Worker lwashington@northpointinc.org 612-767-9173 Fadila Ibrahim, Community Health Worker fibrahim@northpointinc.org 612-483-2794 Aja King, Therapist adkingaking@gmail.com , 205-451-7995 1256 Penn Avenue North, Suite 5300, Minneapolis, MN 55411
People Serving People	Our vision is "People Serving People envisions a community in which all children have the stability and support they need to develop their full capacity to thrive." Our mission is "People Serving People helps homeless and at-risk children and their families manage crisis situations and build a strong foundation for their long-term success."	People that are pregnant and with infants stay at the shelter at People Serving People. We are committed to stability and well-being while they are in shelter and in community. 65% of our community identifies as African American.	Rinal Ray, Associate Executive Director rray@peopleservingpeople.org 612-277-0249 614 3rd St S, Minneapolis, MN 55412
Saint Paul Promise Neighborhood	To create a pathway for children to thrive from birth to career. To create opportunities for families to strengthen relationships in community and to focus on building healthy children, families and communities.	We collaborate with local organizations to increase awareness about issues faced by pregnant mothers and their babies, and to focus on finding solutions to improve their lives.	Jolene Mason, Community Coordinator jolene.mason@wilder.org , 651-621-4503 Ebony Young, Admin ebony.young@wilder.org , 763-807-2939 451 N. Lexington Pkwy St. Paul, MN 55104

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Simpson Housing	To house, support and advocate for people experiencing homelessness	Our programs provide emergency shelters, single adult supportive housing and family supportive housing.	Nedra Robinson, Early Childhood Program Manager nrobinson@simpsonhousing.org 612-386-1029 Ami Weisbrich, Early Childhood Specialist aweisbrich@simpsonhousing.org 651-492-4559 Helen Fogg, Early Childhood Specialist hfogg@simpsonhousing.org 612-806-6314 2100 Pillsbury Ave S Minneapolis, MN 55404
Voices and Choices for Children	Our goal is to ensure all children of color and American Indian children and their families have the opportunity to thrive and live their fullest lives. Our vision is that no child in Minnesota faces the systemic devaluing, undermining, disadvantaging or marginalizing of their individual identities through policies, practices, programs and attitudes that don't fully affirm their cultural background, race, ability and experience.	Our coalition focuses on developing strongly engaged cultural communities of learning, organizing and advocacy for their, input, and impact in shaping more equitable practices and policies that will support better outcomes for children of color and American Indian children prenatal to 8 years old across the state.	Rinal Ray, Coalition Co-Chair rray@peopleservingpeople.org , 612-277-0249 614 3rd St S Minneapolis, MN 55412
Way to Grow	To ensure that every child has an equal opportunity to succeed in school and life	Provide education on the stages of prenatal development, birth prep, expectations or parenting, safe sleep, safety, child development. Group education for teen parents and groups for pregnant moms and caregivers with young children that are health and development focused.	Ronel Robinson, Program Director rrobinson@mplswaytogrow.org 612-874-4740 201 Irving Avenue North Minneapolis, MN 55405

Doula Services

NAME	MISSION	OVERVIEW OF INFANT MORTALITY RELATED WORK	CONTACT
Ahavah Birth Works	Providing Culturally Congruent Care	Ahavah BirthWorks is a non-profit agency that offers culturally congruent pregnancy and birth support to high-risk parents and their families in North Minneapolis. From pregnancy until baby's first birthday, Ahavah provides: doula support, mental health (ARMHS) support, prenatal and childbirth education, lactation education and support, and parenting education and support groups.	Clara Akbar-Bey, Co-owner ahavahbirthworks@gmail.com 763-516-6148 3726 Sheridan Ave N Minneapolis, MN 55412
Doula4All	Every single person who is bringing new life into the world deserves support. I provide culturally aware compassionate care to families in Minneapolis, Saint Paul, and surrounding areas no matter where or how they choose to birth. The overall goal of Doula4All is to decrease the African American maternal and infant mortality rate.	I am a Black birth doula. I work with African American birthing people to help them make empowered choices and create space for them to advocate for themselves and their babies.	Nadine Ashby, Founder and Birth Doula nadine@doula4all.com , 612-968-2471 Minneapolis, MN 55407
Doula Kaytee	Helping black women to birth their babies on their own terms and making sure their voices are heard and that they are getting adequate care.	I'm a doula and I help make sure that black women are being treated correctly and listened to, and that they receive the highest level care no matter what.	Kaytee Crawford, Doula doulakaytee@gmail.com , 952-237-6478 1291 Van Buren Avenue St. Paul, MN 55104

NAME	MISSION	OVERVIEW OF INFANT MORTALITY RELATED WORK	CONTACT
Lotus Birth & BodyWorks	Lotus Birth& BodyWorks provide full-spectrum Doula support (Abortion/Loss, Birth, and Postpartum), Childbirth Education, Lactation Education, Placenta Encapsulation, and Massage Therapy. We strive to support individuals and families through all pregnancy outcomes and labor & delivery choices.	Providing Full-Spectrum Doula services, childbirth education, placenta encapsulation, and Massage Therapy.	Rochelle Vincent, Owner rochellelvincent@gmail.com 952-220-8149 35 Pineview Lane N Plymouth, MN 55441
Sunshine Mama Doula Care	Love Advocate-helping mamas bring babies into the world with light and love.	I am a strength-filled advocate surrounding beautiful mamas with love, knowledgeable care and compassion as they bring life into this world. Certified through both ICTC (International Center for Traditional Childbearing) and Common Sense Childbirth, I've been a doula and perinatal educator for 11 years. I believe in the power of mamas and families to make informed decisions about their care. Decisions that aren't based on monetary gain, but the health and wellbeing of each woman and the child they are carrying. I offer both prenatal and postpartum services and would love to meet more families and help them transition into life with their new baby (or babies)!	Melissa Mitchell, Certified Perinatal Educator melissamitchellcppm@gmail.com 651-470-7113
Ubuntu Minneapolis	Ubuntu Minneapolis is a community birthing, breastfeeding and literacy initiative that aims to inspire parents to be the first teachers of their children to restore and claim their power to stand in this divine calling. The goal is to spread	We provide doula and birth services for pregnant and postpartum mothers and breastfeeding support on a sliding fee scale and cover services using donations from the community.	Jasmine Boudah, Founder ubuntuminneapolis@gmail.com 773-501-5906 2940 Vincent Ave North Minneapolis, MN 55411

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	awareness about the many benefits of breastfeeding for both mothers and children, encourage positive parenting and awareness about child brain development and to provide the tools and support to parents.		

Small Business

NAME	MISSION	OVERVIEW OF INFANT MORTALITY RELATED WORK	CONTACT
Black Family Blueprint	We are a coaching and consulting group focused on activating historically black families to employ wellness strategies that strengthen parenting, support intimate relationships, and increase the collective capacity to build social capital.	Childbirth and parenting education. Professional development. Family coaching.	Ayolanda Evans, Founder & Director blankfamilyblueprint@gmail.com 612-481-0312 Logan Ave N Minneapolis, MN 55411

Other

NAME	MISSION	OVERVIEW OF INFANT MORTALITY RELATED WORK	CONTACT
Kashimana Ahua Sun Baby Publishing	Composer, musician, community teaching, artist.	Writing, and creating art and music, talking about childbirth, motherhood and healing, through music.	Kashimana Ahua, Musician Kashimana.ahua@gmail.com 651-307-8566 1262 James Avenue St. Paul, MN 55105
Minnesota Prenatal to Three Coalition	Our vision is to focus on children and families experiencing racial, economic, and geographic inequities, all Minnesota children will thrive.	As a Coalition of Coalitions, we bring advocacy organizations and initiatives together to support policies beginning prenatally, infants, toddlers and young families. Specifically, Minnesota's Prenatal to Three Coalition supported the legislative interests of the Integrated Care for High Risk Pregnancies (ICHRP) and increasing reimbursement rates for doulas.	Laura LaCroix-Dalluhn, Project Coordinator Laura@LaCroixDalluhnConsulting.com 651-769-4933 C/O 1519 Chelsea St St. Paul, MN 55108

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