

Growing Healthy Families Workgroup Meeting

Virtual Meeting via Zoom

November 13, 2024

2:00pm – 3:00pm

Meeting Goal: Improve birth outcomes for people of color in Howard County to advance efforts toward reducing health disparities.

Meeting Agenda

Meeting will start promptly at 2:00pm

2:00 – 2:15 **Welcome**

- Introductions
- Previous Meeting Recap
- Announcements

2:15 – 2:30 * **Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) Feedback**

Reena Rambharat,

Deputy Director, Bureau of Assessment, Planning & Community Engagement

Howard County Health Department

2:30 – 2:55 **Group Discussion**

- Website Review & Feedback: <https://www.hclhic.org/healthy/child>
- Potential Focus Groups
- Black Maternal Health Week Planning

Samantha Cribbs,

Maternal & Infant Health Program Supervisor, Bureau of Family Health Services

Howard County Health Department

2:55 – 3:00 **Next Steps & Wrap-Up**

* Workgroup Goals & Objectives:

Goal 1: Improve early access to respectful prenatal care experience for reproductive-aged women of color.

Objective 1.1: Assess the barriers to PNC for women of color.

Objective 1.2: Increase early enrollment into prenatal care for women of color

Objective 1.3: Increase access to implicit bias training for healthcare providers and staff

Goal 2: Decrease disparities in pre-term and low birth weight births.

Objective 2.1: Support community efforts to close gaps in PN support and education especially in Columbia, Ellicott City, Laurel, and Elkridge

Goal 3: Promote equitable access to bias-free and culturally congruent prenatal and post-partum support services.

Objective 3.1: Improve equitable access to doula and midwifery services by increasing awareness of their availability and benefits among prenatal providers.

Objective 3.4: Facilitate access to anti-racist and culturally congruent education for home visiting programs staff.

Goal 4: Increase awareness of Maternal and Infant Health resources in Howard County through LHIC communication channels

Objective 4.1: By June 2025, conduct quarterly review and update of the HCLHIC website and Healthy Beginnings> Maternal/Infant/Child Health Resources webpage and promote healthy beginnings resources and information widely among partners and community members.