BLACK MATERNAL HEALTH VIRTUAL CONFERENCE
APRIL 16 - 17, 2021

CLAIMING OUR POWER, RESILIENCE, AND LIBERATION
THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS

CHANGE MAKERS

Sister Song
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First Response
Goldman Sachs

the little market

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BEAM
Baby Dove
City Match
DentaQuest

DSDN
Every Mother Counts
First 5 LA
Growth Mindset

Mamma Mia Study
Morehouse School of Medicine
New Voices
Power to Decide
California Preterm Birth Initiative
Sage Therapeutics

The White Ribbon Alliance
The moment we choose to love, we begin to move against domination, against oppression. The moment we choose to love, we begin to move toward freedom, to act in ways that liberate ourselves and others.

-bell hooks
LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE BLACK MAMAS MATTER ALLIANCE

Beloved Community,

We are excited to have you join us to celebrate the 2021 Black Maternal Health Conference (#BMHC21). This year, our conference is completely virtual and wraps up a dynamic Black Maternal Health Week. In 2020, we centered Black Mamas and their right to live and thrive despite the novel COVID-19 global pandemic and the social injustices that impact Black communities. On the heels of freedom summer 2020 and the renewed spirit of social justice we are proud to embrace our 2021 theme: Black Mamas Matter: Claiming Our Power, Resilience & Liberation.

When we made the decision to plan and implement our first Black Maternal Health Conference and Training Institute in 2018, we hoped to fill an important gap in the public health and maternal health fields. We sought to provide a space for honest conversations, rich dialogue, deep learning, strong connections, and meaningful collaboration that would propel the burgeoning movement for Black Maternal Health Equity forward. Thanks to your participation and contributions, we did just that and have continued to build upon that momentum and ongoing work throughout the past three years to this weekend’s #BMHC21.

For BMMA, we recognize maternal mortality as a global crisis affecting Black women and birthing folks across the world, not just in the U.S., and we join other Black and African women leaders across the diaspora in the fight to END maternal mortality. Black Maternal Health Week and Conference serve as an opportunity to, first, bring visibility to Black women leaders and scholars in the maternal and reproductive health; raise awareness, inspire activism, and strengthen organizing for the Black Maternal Health movement.

Together, we will grow our knowledge about issues affecting Black Maternal Health in the United States: build skills to transform care, research, policy, programs, and the public discourse; and establish and strengthen connections to those who share our passion, values, and dedication. And together, we will empower the movement for Black Maternal Health, Rights, and Justice.

Thank you to everyone who has supported this work and encouraged us as we pursued our labor of love. A very special thank you to the Black Mamas Matter Alliance Board of Directors, Kindred Partners and Collaborators, Staff, and Donors for all that you do for this movement and for Black Mamas and our families.

With Sincere Gratitude,

Angela Doyinsola Aina, MPH
Co-Founding Executive Director
Black Mamas Matter Alliance

ANGELA DOYINSOLA AINA, MPH
CO-FOUNDING EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

BLACKMAMASMMATTER.ORG
WHO WE ARE

BREANA LIPSCOMB, MPH
CO-CHAIR

JESSICA ROACH, MPH
CO-CHAIR

AZA NEDHARI, LM, CPM, MS
SECRETARY

KWAJEYLN JACKSON, MS
TREASURER

JOIA CREAR-PERRY, MD,
FACOG

MONICA RAE SIMPSON

MONICA MCLEMORE, PHD,
MPH, RN, FAAN

JENNIE JOSEPH, LM

JAMILA TAYLOR, PHD

KAY MATTHEWS, LCHW

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WHO WE ARE

STAFF

ROSE AKA-JAMES, MPH
NATIONAL MEMBERSHIP MANAGER

ANIQUIA ACREE, BS
DEVELOPMENT & ENGAGEMENT MANAGER

BRANDI RAWLS
OPERATIONS & GRANTS MANAGER

BROOKE BAKER
COMMUNICATIONS MANAGER

KEBA JACKSON
ADMINISTRATIVE SPECIALIST

MARIEH SCALES, MPH
FELLOW

MAKINA TABLE, MPH
CONSULTANT

RENEE F. SMITH, MFALP
STATE POLICY MANAGER

BLACKMAMASMMATTER.ORG
WHO WE ARE PARTNERS & COLLABORATORS

KINDRED PARTNERS

Ancient Song Doula Services – NY
Baobab Birth Collective – AL
Black Girls’ Breastfeeding Club – GA
Black Mothers’ Breastfeeding Association – MI
Black Women Birthing Justice – CA
Black Women For Wellness – CA
Black Women’s Health Imperative – DC
Center for Black Women’s Wellness – GA
Chocolate Milk Cafe National Inc. – NJ
CinnaMoms – CA
CommonSense Childbirth/ National Perinatal Task Force – FL
Dem Black Mamas Podcast – CA
Feminist Women’s Health Center – GA
Jamaa Birth Village – MO
Mamatoto Village – DC
MommyUp – MD
Mothering Justice – MI
National Birth Equity Collaborative – LA
National Black Midwives Alliance – GA
Perinatal Health Equity Foundation – NJ
Restoring Our Own Through Transformation (ROOTT) – OH
Shades of Blue Project – TX
Shafia Monroe Birthing Change – OR
SisterLove, Inc. – GA
SisterReach – TN
SisterSong Women of Color Reproductive Justice Collective – GA
Southern Birth Justice Network – FL
The Afiya Center – TX
Village Birth International/Co-Mothering, Syracuse – NY

COLLABORATORS

Andrea N. Williams- Muhammad, CBD, CPD, CBE
Avery Desrosiers, MPH
Caitlin Williams, PhD
Courtney Drayton, MPH
Ebony Marcelle, CNM
Erin Cloud, Esq.
Fleda Mask Jackson, PhD
Ifeyinwa Asiodu, RN, PhD
Inas Mahdi, MPH
Isabel Morgan, MSPH, CPH, PhD
Jacqueline Hammack, JD

Jamila Perritt, MD, MPH
Jasmine Getrouw-Moore, MPA
Jill Denson, MSW
Karen Scott, MD, FACOG, CEFM
Lynn Roberts, PhD
Makina L. Table, MPH
Nia Mitchell, MPH
Nicole Clark, LMSW
Philicia Castillo, MPH
Sunshine Muse

BLACKMAMASMATTER.ORG
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<td>11:30 AM - 12:00 PM</td>
<td>Welcoming Address</td>
<td>BMMA Executive Director, Angela Aina, MPH</td>
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| 12:00 PM - 1:15 PM | **Townhall**  
Claiming Our Power in Black Maternal Health | Jessica Roach, MPH  
Jennie Joseph, LM  
Joia Crear-Perry, MD, FACOG  
Monica McLemore, PhD, MPH, RN, FAAN  
Angela Aina, MPH |
| 1:15 PM - 1:30 PM | EXHIBITOR HALL, ON DEMAND AND POSTER PRESENTATIONS | |
| 1:30 PM - 2:35 PM | **Roundtable Presentations and Q&A**  
Centering Our Ingenuity to Advance Maternal Mental Health | Deborah Small, JD, MPP  
Natalie Hernandez, PhD, MPH  
Catrina Williams  
Kay Matthews, LCHW  
Breana Lipscomb, MPH |
| | EXHIBITOR HALL, ON DEMAND AND POSTER PRESENTATIONS | |
| 2:35 PM - 3:30 PM | **BREAKOUT SESSIONS**  
Amplifying the Voices of Black Mamas in Loss & Infertility | Erica McAfee, CD, CLC |
Breana Lipscomb, MPH |
Breana Lipscomb, MPH |
| | Reclaiming Black Care in Pregnancy: Development and Implementation of Hospital-based Black Racially Concordant Group Perinatal Care Models in the Bay Area | Andrea Jackson, MD, MAS  
Iyesha Wren, CNM |
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<td>3:30 PM - 4:35 PM</td>
<td><strong>Keynote Address</strong></td>
<td>Dorothy Roberts, JD</td>
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<td><strong>Foundations of Cultural Humility and Implicit Bias</strong></td>
<td>Sayida Peprah, PsyD, Doula</td>
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<td><strong>Advancing Maternal Health Care Without Legislation</strong></td>
<td>Jamille Allbrooks, JD, MPH Osub Ahmed, MPH</td>
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<td><strong>Auntie Taught Me</strong></td>
<td>Khye Tyson</td>
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<td>4:35 PM - 5:30 PM</td>
<td><strong>Improving Resilience and Maternal Care Provision for Black Women Survivors of Sexual Abuse</strong></td>
<td>Inas Mahdi, MPH</td>
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<td><strong>Advancing Black Maternal Health within a Sexual and Reproductive Health and Wellbeing Framework: A Visionary Agenda for the Federal Government</strong></td>
<td>Jamie Hart, PhD, MPH</td>
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<td><strong>Problematising and Reframing Self-Care From a Critical Foundations Framework</strong></td>
<td>Jasmine Getrouw-Moore, MPA Rebecca Severin, MPH, CPH</td>
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<td><strong>Transforming Maternal Health through Birth Justice</strong></td>
<td>Jamarah Amani, LM Carmen Antonetty</td>
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<td>5:30 PM - 7:30 PM</td>
<td><strong>Groove Thang</strong></td>
<td><strong>Ticket purchase was required at time of conference registration</strong></td>
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<td><strong>BMHC21 Official Afterparty</strong></td>
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| 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM | **Townhall**  
Centering Joy, Liberation, and Creativity in Black Maternal Health | Monica Simpson  
Kimberly Seals-Allers, MS  
Crystal Irby  
Thea Monyee  
Angela Aina, MPH |
| 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM | **EXHIBITOR HALL, ON DEMAND AND POSTER PRESENTATIONS** | |
| | BMBFA B’Right Hub: Moving from Ideation to Impact | Kiddada Green, MAT  
Anjana Davenport-Hatter, LMSW |
| | Leveraging Digital Platforms to Advance Equity for Black Bodies | Kimberly Seals-Allers, MS  
Ashely Wisdom |
| | No More Trauma Porn | Kiara M. Cruz, MPH  
Carmen Green, MPH |
| | Organizing Black Mamas for Reproductive Justice and Policy Change in Pennsylvania | La’Tasha D. Mayes, MSPPM  
PA State Representative, Morgan B. Cephas |
| | Sage That Policy | Nkenge Browner |
| | The Art of Birthing - Shifting the Paradigm Using Art As Advocacy to Uplift and Educate Communities | Nicole Deggins, CNM, MSN, MPH  
Heather Gonzales, MBA |
| | The Black Birthing Bill of Rights: Communicating a Human Rights-based Approach to Black Maternal Health Care through Art and Social Media | Noelene K. Jeffers, PhD, CNM, IBCLC  
Ebony R. Marcelle, CNM, MS, FACNM |
| 2:00 PM - 2:30 PM | **Keynote Address** | Kelis |
| 2:30 PM - 3:00 PM | **EXHIBITOR HALL, ON DEMAND AND POSTER PRESENTATIONS** | |
| 3:00 PM - 4:35 PM | **Roundtable**  
COVID-19, Black Birthing Persons and the Need for Structural Change! | Brittany Chambers, PhD, MPH  
Jazmin Fontenot, MPH  
Ayanna Robinson, PhD, MPH  
Nia Mitchell, MPH  
Ebony Marcelle, CNM, MS, FACNM  
Kwajelyn Jackson, MS |
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<td>Black Mamas Progressive Relaxation Meditation</td>
<td>Sayida Peprah, PsyD, Doula</td>
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<td>Colonialism &amp; The Black Birthing Experience</td>
<td>Rose L. Horton, MSM, RN, NEA-BC</td>
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<td>Building power in the U.S. Southeast Using Findings from a Black-led Abortion Access Research Partnership</td>
<td>Whitney S. Rice, DrPH, MPH Oriaku Njoku, BA, CCC</td>
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<td>Black and Indigenous Solidarity: How We Impacted the Statute Governing Our State’s Maternal Mortality Review Committee</td>
<td>Sunshine Muse</td>
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<td>Cultivating a Liberatory Community for Black Mamas</td>
<td>Tanay Lynn Harris, CBS Shawna Murray Browne, LCSW-C</td>
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<td>Pathways to Equitable and Anti-Racists Maternal and Infant Mental Health Care: Centering Black Birthing Populations</td>
<td>Kay Matthews, LCHW Isabel Morgan, MSPH Zainab Jah, MPH Kelly Davis, MPA</td>
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<td><strong>Closing Address and Remarks</strong></td>
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ON-DEMAND SESSIONS & VIDEOS

Birthing Women and Birthing People’s Experiences of Racism during the COVID-19 Pandemic
Brittany D. Chambers, PhD, MPH; Jazmin Fontenot, MPH

Believe Her: Using Innovative Technology to Meet Black Mother and Birthing People Where They Are
Bianca R. Pryor, MS; Patricia D. Liggins, CNA, CPD

Birthright: Black Joy as a Tool for Birth Equity
Kimberly Seals-Allers, MS

Black Mamas and the Drug War: How Drug Prohibition Leads to the Surveillance and Criminalization of Black Birthing Bodies
Deborah Small, JD, MPP

Black Maternal Health in Puerto Rico During COVID-19
Twylla Dillion, PhD, MBA; Gloriaann Sancha-Antonetty Lebron

Community Based Perinatal Support Interventions: A Merck for Mother Safer Childbirth Cities Initiative
Jessica M. Roach, MPH

Culturally Aware Perinatal Care with a Reproductive Justice Framework in a Community Health Setting
Ebony R. Marcelle, CNM, MS, FACNM

Disconnects and Digital Divides: Black Women and Birth People’s Maternal Telehealth Experiences during the COVID-19 Pandemic
Ayanna Robinson, PhD, MPH; Nia Mitchell, MPH

Innovation in Quality Improvement to Advance Birth Equity: Merck for Mothers Baltimore Safer Cities Initiative
Tenelee Bailey, MBS

INSPIRE Journal Method: Improving Maternal Mental Health Outcomes for Women of Color
Kay Matthews, LCHW

Mental Health, Resilience, and Inequities: A Multi-Level Exploration of Black Maternal Health in Atlanta, GA
Natalie D. Hernandez, PhD, MPH; Catrina Williams

Respectful Maternity care: Addressing Racism and Bias in Maternity Care Settings through State Advocacy
Breanan Lipscomb, MPH; Nourbese Flint, MA
ON-DEMAND POSTER PRESENTATIONS

Biased and Problematic Narratives Against Black Queer and Trans Bodies
Mystique Hargrove, MS, CFSD, CLE, CBE, PhD(c)

A zine composed of beautiful images and poems that convey the message of reclaiming birth, honoring ancestors and rituals, and reviving the power of breastfeeding.
Brandi Miller, MS

Baltimore Black Mamas Peoples Assembly Creative Poster Design & Social Movement
Jennifer White-Johnson, MFA

Black Mamas ATX (BMATX) Redefine Body Empowerment for Postpartum Black Mothers
Dominique McGaha

BLACK-LED MODELS OF BIRTH AND MATERNITY CARE: Belly Buddies™ Prenatal and Birthing Support Program
Maxine Reed-Vance, PhD, MS, RN; Teneele Bailey, MBS

BMATX Achieving Health Equity Expanding Mental Health Supports During COVID -19 Pandemic
Alicia Beatrice, LCSWS-S, LCDC

Body Sovereignty and Ending the Sexual Abuse to Maternal Mortality Pipeline
Sevonna Brown; Farah Tanis, LCSW

Consensus Definition of Maternal Health Equity in Georgia: A Delphi study of local experts
Natalie Hernandez, PhD, MPH; Shirley Sylvester, MD, MPH

Cultural competency and cultural humility in maternal healthcare
Roslyn Holliday Moore, MS

DBM Episode 24 Birthing Freedom Featuring Chauntel Norris Founder of Baobab Birth Collective & Co-Director of Alabama Prison Birth Project
Dem Black Mamas Podcast

What on Irth? Product Demonstration of the Irth App
Kimberly Seals-Allers, MS

Young Mamas Panel
Laneyah Setticase; Jamarah Amani, LM
ON-DEMAND POSTER PRESENTATIONS

Engaging with Black Mothers and Doulas about Maternal Mortality: A PCORI Funded Project
Deneen Robinson; Becky Spencer, PhD, RN, IBCLC

How the Black Maternal Health Momnibus Act Fosters Birth Equity & Advances Reproductive Justice
Dawn Godbolt, PhD; Denys Symonette Mitchell, MSW

In the tradition: Alabama birth keepers of color
Danica Davis, M.Ed, CD (DONA), CLC; Chauntel Norris, CLC, LCCE

Poetry and Pictures: Black Women and Birth
Lisa Diamond, CMT, CLS, CLC

Racial Differences in Attitudes Towards a COVID-19 Vaccine in Pregnant and Postpartum Women: US data from a Global Cross-Sectional Study
Natalie Hernandez, PhD, MPH; Shirley Sylvester, MD, MPH

Respectful Maternity Care: The Cycle to Respectful Care Framework
Carmen Green, MPH; Susan Perez, PhD, MPH

Safer Childbirth Cities to Improve Black Maternal Health
Jacque Caglia, MPH; Mary-Ann Etiebet, MD, MBA

SisterWeb Community Doula Network: Approaching Birth Justice Through An Innovative, Grassroots, Doula Program
Marlee-I Mystic

The Color of Healthcare
Deborah J. Evans, MBA; Patricia A. Ferguson, MD

Abolitionist Medicine and Reproductive Futurism
Efe Osaren, CLC, CD (ASDS); Emily Varnam

Voices of Black Mothers: The Baby-Friendly Experience
Hakima L. Payne, MSN, RN; Tru B. Kellman, CPM
BMMA is a national network of black women-led organizations and multi-disciplinary professionals who work to ensure that all Black Mamas have the rights, respect, and resources to thrive before, during, and after pregnancy. BMMA honors the work and historical contributions of Black women’s leadership within their communities and values the need to amplify this work on a national scale. For this reason, BMMA does not have chapters. The alliance is composed of existing organizations and individuals (Midwives, OB/GYNs, Nurses, Doulas, Researchers, Public Health Professionals, Perinatal Support Workers, Attorneys, Lactation Consultants, and Artists) whose work is deeply rooted in reproductive justice, birth justice, and the human rights framework.