

# BLACK MATERNAL HEALTH WEEK

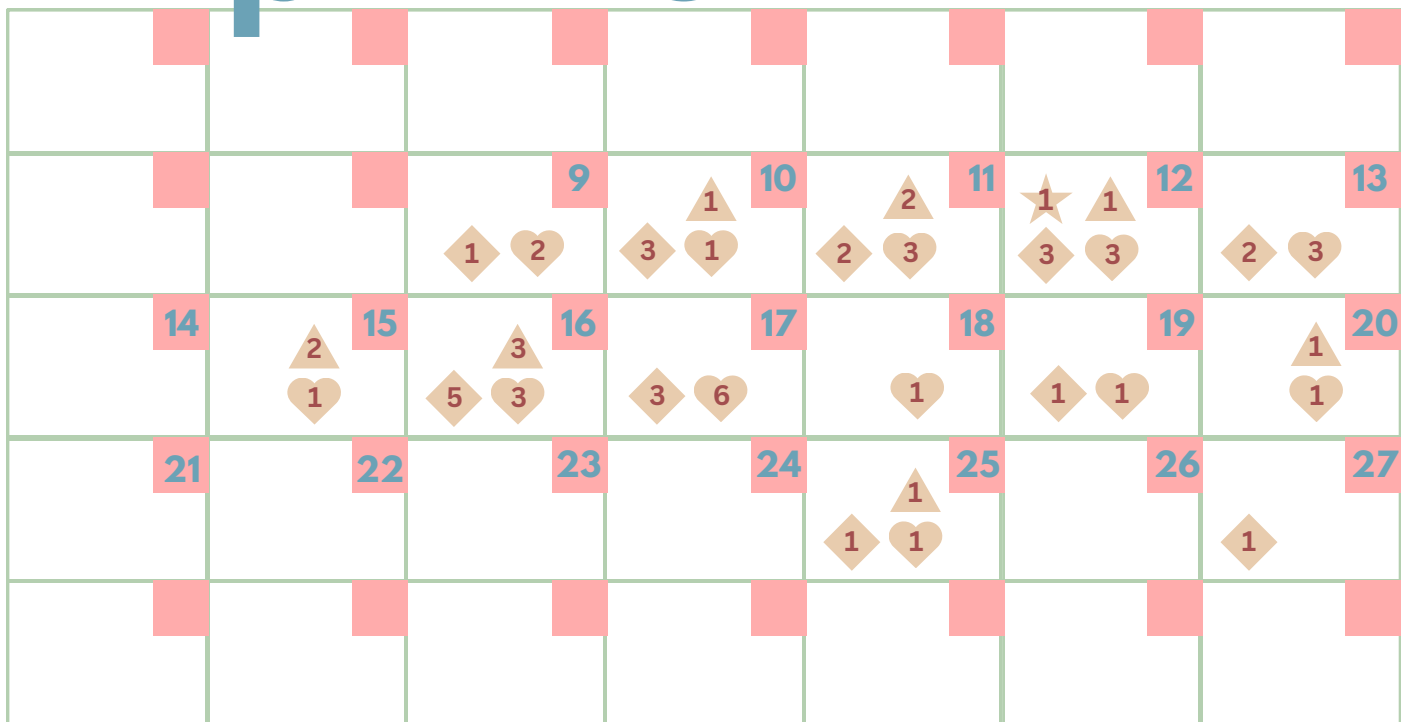
April 11th - 17th

Black Maternal Health Week was founded by the Black Mamas Matter Alliance (BMMA) to celebrate, support, and amplify the voices of Black mothers. Stop by these events hosted by our #NurtureNJ partners around the state!  
Learn more about BMMA [here](#).



- KEY**
- ◆ Seminar/Discussion/Panel
  - ♥ Community Event/Resource Fair
  - ★ Continuing Education/Professional Development
  - ▲ Other

## April 2024



# Event Information

## Balancing Parenthood and Recovery

April 9th, 10 AM - 11 AM

Hosted by: Acenda Integrated Health

Register [here](#)

In partnership with Project Embrace, Gloucester County residents can learn from Recovery Support Specialists how to balance your parenting journey with your recovery journey.

Contact: Marissa Grimm, [mgrimm@acendahealth.org](mailto:mgrimm@acendahealth.org)



## Maternal Oral Health Education Class w/ Linkage to a Dental Home for Mom and Baby

April 9th, 10:30 AM - 12:00 PM

Hosted by: KinderSmile Foundation's Perinatal Health and Wellness Program

Location: 10 Broad Street Bloomfield, NJ 07003

KinderSmile Foundation invites all pregnant and recently postpartum mamas to join us at KinderSmile Community Oral Health Center for a fun educational class on maternal oral health! In return, participating mothers will receive free to low cost dental care and linkage to a dental home for themselves and their babies

Contact: Nye Veale, [nveale@kindersmile.org](mailto:nveale@kindersmile.org)



## Welcome Home! The Maternity House Experience

April 9th, 11 AM - 7 PM

Hosted by: Irth App

Location: 132 South Harrison Street East Orange, NJ 07018

We are saying Welcome Home! to Black birthing people and new families with a three-city tour of in-house experiences featuring prenatal and postpartum education and resources, fitness classes, cooking, product and tech demos, all topped with Black joy.

An all-day curated maternity and infant care education experience, hosted in vibrant homes in three cities, launching during and immediately after BMHW. Each room of the house will host product demos, info sessions, pampering experiences, nutrition info, the latest in tech, and more. We're featuring appearances by members of Irth's celebrity mom squad in select cities, and we're bringing belly laughs with local comedians in our Black birthing joy room, and ending the day with a line dancing party and reception.

Contact: Meagan Centeno, [nyccoordinator@irthapp.com](mailto:nyccoordinator@irthapp.com)



## Maternal Oral Health Education Class w/ Linkage to a Dental Home for Mom and Baby

April 10th, 10 AM - 11:30 AM

Hosted by: KinderSmile Foundation's Perinatal Health and Wellness Program

Location: 10 Broad Street Bloomfield, NJ 07003

KinderSmile Foundation invites all pregnant and recently postpartum mamas to join us at KinderSmile Community Oral Health Center for a fun educational class on maternal oral health! In return, participating mothers will receive free to low cost dental care and linkage to a dental home for themselves and their babies

Contact: Nye Veale, [nveale@kindersmile.org](mailto:nveale@kindersmile.org)



## **Family Wellness Social**

April 10th, 10:30 AM – 1:00 PM

Hosted by: Southern New Jersey Perinatal Cooperative and Family Health Initiatives

Location: 808 Market Street, 3rd Floor, Camden, New Jersey

Join us as we observe Black Maternal Health Week (April 11 – 17) and National Stress Awareness Month with a special presentation by Life After 2 Losses on stress management and Black maternal health and family wellness. This event is

for individuals/families enrolled in the following programs:

Camden Healthy Start, Nurse-Family Partnership, Parents as Teachers, Healthy Women/Healthy Families, Mom's Quit Connection for Families, Prematurity Prevention Initiative, Project Embrace, and Postpartum Wellness Initiative for South Jersey.

Contact: Jennifer Monteforte; JMonteforte@snjpc.org



## **ACNJ Lunch and Learn: Heart Health and the Black Maternal Health Crisis**

April 10th, 12 PM

Hosted by: Advocates for Children of New Jersey

Register [here](#).

Join ACNJ for a Lunch and Learn on Heart Health and the Black Maternal Health Crisis presented by Dr. Nastassia K. Harris DNP, RN, IBCLC Founder/Executive Director of the Perinatal Health Equity Initiative

Contact: Hannah Korn-Heilner, hkornheiler@acnj.org



## **#BMHW24 - Birth Justice Institute Launch**


April 10th, 1 PM - 2:30 PM

Hosted by: Ancient Song

Register [here](#).

Welcome to the Birth Justice Institute Launch! Join us online to learn about the important work being done to promote birth justice in New Jersey.

This event will feature informative discussions, interactive Q&A sessions, and opportunities to connect with others passionate about maternal health. Don't miss out on this chance to be a part of the movement for change!


The Birth Justice Institute is a pioneering organization dedicated to advancing equity and justice in maternal healthcare across the nation, starting with New Jersey. At its core, the institute focuses on addressing disparities in birth outcomes, advocating for the rights and well-being of birthing individuals, and promoting culturally competent care. This includes our Training Institute and Birth Equity Task Force. 

## **Thriving Together: Strategies for Sustainable Wellness**

April 10th, 5:30 PM - 6:15 PM

Hosted by: Light a Fire LLC

Register [here](#).

Cultivating Wellness in Black Maternal Mental Health - Want to learn how to THRIVE? This event aims to provide a comprehensive exploration of the intersection between Black maternal mental health, wellness, productivity, and self-care. Join us in fostering awareness, empowerment, and actionable strategies for attendees. 

## **Black Maternal Health Week 2024**

April 11th, 9 AM - 2 PM

Hosted by: UHC Community Plan of NJ

Location: Zufall Health | 49 Mount Pleasant Avenue, West Orange NJ 07052

UHC Community Plan NJ in cooperation with Zufall Health Center will be providing an educational table with materials in English and Spanish on Maternal & Women's health care. There will be giveaways!

Contact: : Midge Clarke, [mclarke@zufallhealth.org](mailto:mclarke@zufallhealth.org)



## **Safe Arrival: A Guide to Promoting Healthy Births for South Jersey Families**

April 11th, 10 AM - 11 AM

Hosted by: Acenda Integrated Health

Register [here](#)

With information from NJ Stillbirth Awareness Campaign & Count the Kicks, learn how monitoring your baby's movements can help prevent stillbirths and promote a healthy pregnancy. Discover valuable tips and local resources to ensure your baby's well-being throughout pregnancy. Don't miss out on this essential knowledge for expecting parents.

Contact: Marissa Grimm, [mgrimm@acendahealth.org](mailto:mgrimm@acendahealth.org)



## HCPC Health Equity Roundtable: Advancing health equity for women

April 11th, 10 AM - 11 AM

Hosted by: Health Coalition of Passaic County

Register [here](#).

The Health Coalition of Passaic County (HCPC) has piloted an innovative, evidence- and value-based model to coordinate the complex health and social needs of women in our communities. Our round table will explore:

- • A value-based approach to address health-related social needs
- • The Pathways Community Hub model
- • HCPC's Pathways to Success for Women program
- • The role of community-based organizations
- • Insights for MCOs, clinicians, hospitals, and policymakers.

Panelists include:

- Fiorella G. Vera, Social Determinants of Health Manager, Health Coalition of Passaic County
- Dr. Sarah Redding, Co-founder of the PCHI Model
- Carolyn McCombs, Executive Director, New Destiny Family Success Center
- Kendall Smith, Community Health Worker and doula, New Destiny Family Success Center

Contact: Dimitrios Kalantzis, [dkalantzis@sgacommunications.com](mailto:dkalantzis@sgacommunications.com)



## What a Difference a Doula Makes

April 11th, 10 AM - 11 AM

Hosted by: Newark Beth Israel Medical Center

[Attend virtually here](#)

Newark Beth Israel hosts “What a Difference a Doula Makes” a presentation by Juwana Montgomery of Southward Promise Neighborhood. Ms. Montgomery will discuss the role that Doulas play throughout pregnancy. Doulas can provide emotional support, education and advocacy during prenatal care, labor and delivery and the post-partum experience.

Meeting ID: 98008507207

Passcode: 772448

Contact: Shellon Hall, [shellon.hall@rwjbh.org](mailto:shellon.hall@rwjbh.org)



## Community Open House + Giveaway

April 11th, 11 AM - 6:30 PM

Location: 50 Church Street, Montclair, NJ 07042

Host: Ancient Song

[Register here](#)

Welcome to Ancient Song's Community Open House + Give Away event! Join us at Ancient Song for a fun-filled day of activities and freebies. Explore our space, meet our team, connect with doulas, and learn more about what we do. Don't miss out on the chance to receive free essential resources such as diapers, wipes, maternity clothes, strollers, and more. Whether you're a long-time resident or new to the neighborhood, this event is perfect for everyone. Come by and say hello!





## 2024 Black Maternal Health Week Table Talk Series

April 11th, 12 PM - 1 PM

Hosted by: Atlantic Health System

Register [here](#).

Building partnerships through communication and collaboration with community-based leaders in maternal health. Learn how doula care improves Black maternal health and maternal outcomes in birth and the peripartum period. The panel will be moderated by Christina Johnson, MD, PhD, Atlantic Medical Group Health Equity Lead Physician, Atlantic Health System

Panelists include:

- Melanie Betancur, MPH, CPLD, CHES®, CEO and Founder of Reverence Birth
- Birth Doula Erica Pullium BA, CPD, CEO and
- Founder of The Partum Tribe, Postpartum Doula

Contact: Kim Holloway / [kim.holloway@atlanticealth.org](mailto:kim.holloway@atlanticealth.org)



## Balancing Parenthood and Recovery

April 11th, 1 PM - 2 PM

Hosted by: Acenda Integrated Health

Register [here](#)

In partnership with Project Embrace, Gloucester County residents can learn from Recovery Support Specialists how to balance your parenting journey with your recovery journey.

Contact: Marissa Grimm, [mgrimm@acendahealth.org](mailto:mgrimm@acendahealth.org)



## Our Future Belongs to Us: Amplifying Innovations in Black Maternal Health!

April 11th, 1 PM - 2 PM

Hosted by: Healthy Birth Day, Inc. / Count the Kicks Program

Register [here](#).

Join nonprofit organization Healthy Birth Day, Inc. for “Our Future Belongs to Us: Amplifying Innovations in Black Maternal Health!” as we recognize Black Maternal Health Week!

Learn about creative, exciting solutions emerging in Black Maternal Health from a powerful multidisciplinary panel of professionals from across the United States, and leave empowered with concrete action steps of how you can play a part in improving outcomes for a better future!

Panelists include:

- Christine Tucker, Health Equity Manager at Healthy Birthday Inc.
- Sheridan Blackwell, Head of Systems Change, Hospitals, and Partnerships at Irth,
- Dr. L. Joy Baker, MD, FACOG, PMH-C, C-EFM, MT (ASCP) at Delivering Joy MD
- TaKiesha Smith, Doula, CLC, CHW at A Caring Doula, and
- Toni Hill, Certified Professional Midwife, CLC at Blooming Moon Midwifery Services.

## Balancing Parenthood and Recovery

April 11th, 1 PM - 2 PM

Hosted by: Acenda Integrated Health

Register [here](#)

In partnership with Project Embrace, Cumberland County residents can learn from Recovery Support Specialists how to balance your parenting journey with your recovery journey.

Contact: Marissa Grimm, [mgrimm@acendahealth.org](mailto:mgrimm@acendahealth.org)

## **Black Mamas Celebration**

April 11th, 4 PM - 8 PM

Hosted by: Most Beautiful W.O.M.B. Inc.

Location: Soldiers Home, 1510 Adriatic Ave Atlantic City, NJ

In honor of Black Maternal Health Week 2024, this event is a celebration of wellness and Black Maternal Vitality. This is a community event/resource fair.

Contact: Toshira Maldonado, beautifulwombllc@gmail.com



## **“Always In Bloom” Screening and Discussion**

April 11th, 5 PM - 9 PM

Hosted by: Always In Bloom

Location: 53 Edison Pl. Newark NJ 07102

AfroTwin production will be screening "Always In Bloom" featuring two original short films as well as an exclusive viewing of the proof of concept for the feature-length musical. Before the screening, you will engage in discussion with doulas and other healthcare professionals about Black Maternal Health. After the screening, there will be an open Q&A with the director, Muhyi Ali, and special guests. There will also be with a healing sound bath. Discounted tickets available.

Contact: Muhyi Ali, AfroTwinProductions@gmail.com



## Save Our Bodies, Save Our Babies: Black Maternal Health Week Kickoff Panel Discussion

April 11th, 5:30 PM - 7 PM

Hosted by: NAACP Trenton Branch Women in the NAACP (WIN) Committee and Trenton Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc.

Location: Mercer County Library: Ewing Branch, 61 Scotch Road, Ewing NJ

Save Our Bodies, Save Our Babies: Black Maternal Health Week Kickoff Panel Discussion, presented by the Trenton Branch of the NAACP, Women in the NAACP (WIN) and the Trenton Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated is an in-depth and necessary conversation on Black maternal health. We will engage with local healthcare professionals and community leaders, as well as take a pledge to take our bodies and babies back!

Contact: Kieanna Childs Alexander, [trentonnaacp2017@gmail.com](mailto:trentonnaacp2017@gmail.com)



## Maternal Health Community Conversation

April 11th, 4 PM

Hosted by: Greater Newark Health Care Coalition and Partnership for Maternal and Child Health of Northern NJ

Location: 50 Union Ave., Suite 403, Irvington, NJ 07111

Newark, East Orange, or Irvington residents who are currently pregnant or have been pregnant in the last two years are welcome to express interest to join a community conversation on Thursday April 11, 2024 from 10am-12pm in Irvington. GNHCC and the Partnership aim to understand your experiences using NJ FamilyCare insurance to access maternity care and services. To participate, individuals must have had NJ FamilyCare insurance during their pregnancy or after delivery. Individuals who participate will receive a gift card.

Complete interest form [here](#).

Contact: Nikki St. Germain, [Nstgermain@greaternewarkhcc.org](mailto:Nstgermain@greaternewarkhcc.org)



## **Black Maternal Health Week 2024**

April 12th, 9 AM - 12 PM

Hosted by: UHC Community Plan of NJ

Location: Eric B. Chandler Health Center-  
277 George Street, New Brunswick, NJ08901

UHC Community Plan of NJ in cooperation with Eric B Chandler Health Center will be providing an educational table with materials in English and Spanish for good Maternal & Women's Health. Plus giveaways!

Contact: : Midge Clarke, [mclarke@zufallhealth.org](mailto:mclarke@zufallhealth.org)



## **Restoring Our Joy Retreat**

April 12th, 10 AM - 2 PM

Hosted by: Partnership for Maternal and Child Health  
of Northern New Jersey

Location: 2 Grafton Ave, Newark, NJ 07104  
Register [here](#).

Join us for an empowering retreat for Black and Brown pregnant and new moms. Experience a supportive space where birthing individuals can gain knowledge, tools, and a sense of validation to advocate for their health and well-being. Let's celebrate parenthood together!

Contact: Lauraine Jondoh, [ljondoh@pmch.org](mailto:ljondoh@pmch.org)



## United Passaic Organization's 2nd Annual Community Baby Shower

April 12th, 10 AM - 2 PM

Hosted by: United Passaic Organization, Several Sources, Mt. Pilgrim Missionary Baptist Church, the Partnership for Maternal and Child Health of Northern New Jersey, the Rapid Response Team, and the NJ Department of Health

Come join us as a Community Resource Vendor on Friday, April 12th 2024, for a day filled with fun and support for expecting parents and families with young children. Our event aims to provide resources, education, and a sense of community for all attendees.

Whether you're a new parent, soon-to-be parent, or just want to celebrate with us, this event is for you! We'll have games, workshops, giveaways, and more. Don't miss out on this special day dedicated to our little ones! No registration required.



Contacts: (973)-472-2478, Marialuisa Solis (Msolis@pmch.org) or INFO@unitedpassaic.org

## BRICK Community Perinatal Health Associate Training Program Launch

April 12th, 11 AM

Hosted by: BRICK/South Ward Promise Neighborhood

Location: 695 Bergen Street, Newark NJ

This new training is grounded in the HealthConnect One community-based doula curriculum with additional content on peer breastfeeding and public health. Participants will also engage in hands-on training at local Newark hospitals.

Upon completion of their training, these graduates can be employed as community-based doulas and/or peer lactation workers!

Contact: Jazmin Rivera, jrivera@brickeducation.org



## Maternal Health through Paternal Lenses

April 12th, 12 PM - 1 PM

Hosted by: Newark Beth Israel Medical Center

Attend virtually [here](#).

Newark Beth Israel hosts “Maternal Health through Paternal Lenses”, a presentation by Troy Bowers of the Tree of Life Center for Care. Mr. Bowers will host a discussion for expecting fathers/partners on the importance of supporting women throughout pregnancy. Mr. Bowers will discuss the many opportunities for support including supporting prenatal care, participating in the labor and delivery experience, and supporting new moms through the post-partum experience.

Contact: Shellon Hall, [shellon.hall@rwjbh.org](mailto:shellon.hall@rwjbh.org)



## TRU Birth Center Tour Event

April 12th, 12 PM - 3 PM

Location: 1382 Lanes Mill Road, Lakewood, NJ

Hosted by: TRU Birth Center

Take a tour of TRU Birth Center in Lakewood, NJ, and explore your birth options.

Dr. Clara Surowitz and her team of Certified Nurse Midwives deliver personalized care to every mother. TRU optimizes birth outcomes by combining the latest medical advances with a human touch. Find out what it means to be truly cared for during your birth.

Contact: Ashley Sibbio, [ashley@trubirthcenter.com](mailto:ashley@trubirthcenter.com)



## Learning American Sign Language

April 12th, 3 PM - 4 PM

Hosted by: Promise Neighborhood Family Success Center

Location: 580 Benson St. Camden NJ 08103

At the Center For Family Services' Navigator Exchange Program, trained navigators (bilingual) can help you understand your healthcare options and assist you in completing the application.

Contact: [demi.james@centerffs.org](mailto:demi.james@centerffs.org)



## Black Maternal Health Perspectives Panel Discussion

April 12th, 4:30 PM - 5:30 PM

Hosted by: Stockton University School of Health Sciences Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging Committee, Stockton University Africana Studies Program, and other campus, student, and community organizations

Location: Alton Auditorium, Stockton University  
101 Vera King Farris Drive, Galloway, NJ 08205-9441

Register [here](#).

Please join us to shed light on the challenges and disparities faced by Black birthing people in maternal healthcare. The panelist will help Health Science Students, Faculty, and Staff learn more about this major health concern from a truly interdisciplinary perspective (OB/GYNs, social workers, doulas, and community advocates).

Contact: Dr. Trina Gipson-Jones, [Trina.Gipson-Jones@Stockton.edu](mailto:Trina.Gipson-Jones@Stockton.edu)





## 2nd Annual Black Maternal Health Awareness Joyful Walk

April 13th, 9:30 AM - 12:30 PM

Hosted by: Health Coalition of Passaic County, PMCHNNJ, OASIS,  
Passaic County, St. Mary's Hospital, PHAM,  
New Destiny, Lighthouse

Location: Eastside Park Paterson, NJ 07505

Register [here](#).

We invite all community members to join the Healthy Women Task Force Team for a joyful walk as we raise awareness about Black maternal disparities. Our walk will kick off promptly at 10:00 a.m. Bring a family member or friend!

Contacts: Beverly Brevard (beverlyb@passaiccountynj.org)



## Minority Health Awareness Month and Black Maternal Health Week Forum

April 13th, 10 AM - 12 PM

Hosted by: South Jersey Chapter of the National Black Nurses Association

Location: Center, 1865 Harrison Ave Camden, NJ 08105

A community discussion on the importance, identification, and treatment of cardiac issues during and after pregnancy. Other discussions: mental health, community resources, access to, death, and disparity rates. Speakers: Dr. Jacyi Knights, Victoria Nunnaly, Asia Abdul-Haqq, and Victoria Wilson

Contact: Dr. Cheryl Harris, DNP MHA RN NEA-BC., [president@sjcbna.org](mailto:president@sjcbna.org)



## Sharing the Love: A Black Maternal Health Week Celebration

April 13th, 10 AM - 1 PM

Location: John L. Costley Middle School,  
116 Hamilton St, East Orange, NJ 07017

Hosted by: Montclair Alumnae Chapter Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.,  
Partnership for Maternal and Child Health of Northern New Jersey

Join us for this free community baby shower and celebration featuring exciting guest speakers, discussion groups, lunch, raffles, giveaways, and more!

Contact: [info@pmch.org](mailto:info@pmch.org)



## Shining a Light on Postpartum Depression

April 13th, 11 AM - 2 PM

Hosted by: TruDoulas of NJ

Location: 407 West State St, Trenton, NJ 08618

It's important to break the silence around postpartum depression (PPD). Creating a supportive community for moms dealing with PPD can make a significant difference. Let's encourage open conversations and provide the help and understanding needed during this challenging time.

Contact: Jodie Sessoms, [TruDoulasofnj@gmail.com](mailto:TruDoulasofnj@gmail.com)



## **2024 Black Maternal Health Week Table Talk Series**

**Building partnerships through communication and collaboration with community-based leaders in maternal health**

April 13th, 12 PM - 1 PM

Hosted by: Atlantic Health System

Register [here](#).

Listen to family and community about supporting birthing parents and improving Black maternal health and maternal outcomes.

- Marie Kinsella, MS, MCHES, Director of Community Programs, Partnership for Maternal and Child Health of Northern New Jersey
- Lisa Gittens-Williams, MD, FACOG, Professor and Director Obstetrics Rutgers New Jersey Medical School; Chair NJ Section ACOG, Member of the Morris County Chapter of The Links, Inc.
- Akira Frierson, RN, CEO and Founder, Take Care of You LLC, Peripartum Support,
- Moderated by Christina Johnson, MD, PhD, Atlantic Medical Group Health Equity Lead Physician, Atlantic Health System

Contact: Louise Gonzalez, [louise.gonzalez@atlanticealth.org](mailto:louise.gonzalez@atlanticealth.org)



## **Financial Aid Workshop**

April 15th, 12 PM - 2 PM

Hosted by: Promise Neighborhood Family Success Center

Location: 580 Benson St. Camden NJ 08103

Stop by to learn about the overview of the financial aid process and answer questions about grants, scholarships, and loans offered by the State of New Jersey.

Contact: Demi James, [demi.james@centerffs.org](mailto:demi.james@centerffs.org)



## Maternal Warning Signs of Preeclampsia and Blood Pressure Screenings

April 15th, 12 PM - 3 PM

Hosted by: Inspira Medical Center Mullica Hill New Jersey

Location: 700 Mullica Hill Road Mullica Hill, NJ in the Bistro Lobby

Preeclampsia is a serious form of high blood pressure during pregnancy. For Black women in particular, this risk is significantly higher. Awareness of warning signs and early recognition of preeclampsia symptoms can help Black mothers-to-be manage this condition and improve maternal and fetal outcomes.

Contact: Dr. Donna Volpe, volped1@ihn.org



## Stress Management & Prenatal Yoga

April 15th, 12 PM - 2 PM

Hosted by: Greenway Family Success Center

Location: 1005 Rahway Ave, Unit 1 Avenel, NJ 07001

New and expecting mothers will learn how to manage stress during pregnancy and post-partum. Participants will also enjoy and 45 minute pre-natal yoga and create a health parfait after the session.

Contact: Zaria Rawls, zrawls.greenwayfsc@preventionlinks.org



## Black Maternal Health Week 2024

April 16th, 10 AM - 1 PM

Hosted by: UHC Community Plan of NJ

Location: Metropolitan Family Health Network  
935 Garfield Ave. Jersey City, NJ.

UHC Community Plan NJ in cooperation with Monmouth Family Health Center will be providing an educational table with materials in English and Spanish on Maternal & Women's health care. There will be giveaways!



Contact: Helen Dao (HDao@metrofhn.org) and Yeraldin Cabrera (ycabrera@metrofhn.org)

## Maternal Oral Health Education Class w/ Linkage to a Dental Home for Mom and Baby

April 16th, 10 AM - 12:00 PM

Hosted by: KinderSmile Foundation's Perinatal Health and Wellness Program

Location: 101 N. Broad Street Trenton, NJ 08608

KinderSmile Foundation invites all pregnant and recently postpartum mamas to join us at KinderSmile Community Oral Health Center for a fun educational class on maternal oral health! In return, participating mothers will receive free to low cost dental care and linkage to a dental home for themselves and their babies!

This event is for Spanish-speakers.

Contact: Nye Veale, [nveale@kindersmile.org](mailto:nveale@kindersmile.org)



## Chair Exercises

April 16th, 11 AM - 12 PM

Hosted by: Promise Neighborhood Family Success Center

Location: 580 Benson St. Camden NJ 08103

Come try and learn different exercises that you can do at home and without any equipment, just a chair!

Contact: Demi James, [demi.james@centerffs.org](mailto:demi.james@centerffs.org)



## **Black Maternal Health: Educational Film Showing & Panel Discussion**

April 16th, 12 PM - 1 PM

Hosted by: Robert Wood Johnson Medical School Office of Inclusion and Diversity; and Office of Multicultural and Student Affairs

Location: Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital Courtyard  
1 Robert Wood Johnson Place, New Brunswick

Register [here](#).

This event will present a short 20 minute educational film called 'Toxic'. It covers Black maternal health disparities and our panel discussion will consist of learning how we can all make a positive impact on maternal health outcomes for Black women. This event will be moderated by Dr. Charletta Ayers.

Contact: Madelyne Rinaldo (she/her), [madelyne.rinaldo@rutgers.edu](mailto:madelyne.rinaldo@rutgers.edu)



## **Access in Crisis in the African American and Black Communities**

April 16th, 12 PM - 1 PM

Hosted by: Virtua Healthcare  
Virtual

Our panel of Virtua Maternal Health providers and community partners will share their expertise and insights on key topics such as pre-conceptual care, maternal mental and physical health, prenatal hypertension and diabetes and the benefits of having Doula Support.

Meeting ID: 916 8124 6516

Passcode: 755980

Contact: Valerie Fulton, [vfulton@virtua.org](mailto:vfulton@virtua.org)



## **Black Maternal Health: Educational Film** **"Toxic: A Black Woman's Story"**

April 16th, 12 PM - 1 PM

Hosted by: Robert Wood Johnson Medical School Office of Inclusion and Diversity; and Office of Multicultural and Student Affairs

Location: University Hospital Courtyard  
1 Robert Wood Johnson Place, New Brunswick

Please join us in learning more about maternal disparities and how we can make a positive impact on maternal health outcomes for Black women. Panel discussion to follow film discussion.

Contact: Novlette Hammond, [Nov.hammond1@gmail.com](mailto:Nov.hammond1@gmail.com)



## **Pop Up for Black Maternal Health Week**

April 16th, 3 PM - 4:30 PM

Hosted by: Children's Futures

Location: 24 S. Warren St. Trenton, NJ

Pop Up for Black Maternal Health Week is an awareness event for community uplift. Promoting positive parenting to bring reproductive justice for all.

Contact: James Graham, [jgraham@childrensfutures.org](mailto:jgraham@childrensfutures.org)



## **Instagram Live**

April 16th, 4 PM

Hosted by: Vital Start Health

Join the live discussion [here](#).

Join us live as we discuss Black Maternal Health with Dr. Myriam Mondestin Sorrentino, MD, FACOG Maternal-Fetal Medicine, Obstetrics and Gynecology and her clinic Princeton Perinatal Institute.

Contact: Jillian Edman, [jillian@vitalstarthealth.com](mailto:jillian@vitalstarthealth.com)



## Careers in Maternal Health: A Black Maternal Health Week Discussion

April 16th, 7 PM - 8 PM

Hosted by: Montclair Alumnae Chapter Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. and the Partnership for Maternal and Child Health of Northern New Jersey

Register [here](#).

Learn how a lack of diversity in the healthcare field contributes to inequitable care and the increased risk to Black women and their families. Our guest speakers will discuss about career options in health that make a difference. This webinar is wonderful for those starting out in their career or considering a career change.

Contact: [info@pmch.org](mailto:info@pmch.org)



## Rituals of Resistance: A Movement from Midwifery to Policy

April 16th, 4 PM

Hosted by: Greater Mount Zion Community Development Corporation  
Salvation and Social Justice  
Melanin and Maternal Wellness

Tune into the livestream [here](#).

The movement to improve Black maternal health has deep roots in the contributions of Black midwives. However, as we work towards ensuring safe, fair, sustainable, and respectful maternity care for Black mothers, we also acknowledge the significance of policy changes. Join us for an engaging discussion on how to advance the movement in a meaningful and multifaceted manner.

Contact: [Crystal@gmztame.org](mailto:Crystal@gmztame.org)





## Community Baby Shower

April 17th, 11 AM - 2 PM

Hosted by: Community Planning and Advocacy Council  
Camden County Council For Young Children Dept

Location: 1865 Harrison Avenue, Camden, New Jersey 08105

Our goal is to bring awareness about programs, provide educational presentations and provide resource on maternal infant health. (Presentations by Doula, Infant Child CPR, Maternal and Infant Mental Health with Occupational Therapy, Fatherhood, Early Childhood Specialist)

Contact: LaVonia Abavana, labavana@cpacsj.org



## "Baby It's Me" Black Maternal Health Fair

April 17th, 11 AM - 3 PM

Hosted by: La Casa De Don Pedro

Location: 300 S. Clinton Ave Newark NJ

Black Maternal Health Fair at Shana Baraka Center intended to provide community, family and maternal health services. STD screenings, pre-natal education sessions, pre-natal yoga will be provided.

Contact: Fern Isom- Majette, fisommajette@lacasanwk.org



## Community Baby Shower

April 17th, 11 AM - 3 PM

Hosted by: Township of Irvington Department of Health and Senior Services  
Economic Development  
Neighborhood Improvement Corp

Location: 291 Union Avenue, Irvington NJ 07111

A special Community Baby Shower filled with resources and support for expectant parents! In observance of Black Maternal Health Week.

Contact: Kimberly Pierre / kpierre@irvingtonnj.org



## **2024 Black Maternal Health Week Table Talk Series**

**Building partnerships through communication and collaboration with community-based leaders in maternal health**

April 17th, 12 PM - 1 PM

Hosted by: Atlantic Health System

Register [here](#).

Learn more about the importance of paternal inclusion in Black maternal health and maternal outcomes.

- Joel Austin, CPD, President/CEO Daddy University, Postpartum Doula
- Mark-Robert Mahaga-Ajala, DO, Atlantic Health System, Board-Certified OB/GYN
- Moderated by Christina Johnson, MD, PhD, Atlantic Medical Group Health Equity Lead Physician, Atlantic Health System

Contact: Kim Holloway, [kim.holloway@atlanticealth.org](mailto:kim.holloway@atlanticealth.org)



## **Reproductive Justice for All: No Women Left Behind**

April 17th, 1 PM - 2 PM

Hosted by: Newark Beth Israel Medical Center

Attend [virtually here](#)

Newark Beth Israel hosts “Reproductive Justice for All: No Women Left Behind” a presentation by Camille Walker, MD and Norma B. Milanes-Roberts, MD obstetrician/gynecologists at Newark Beth Israel Medical Center. Dr. Walker and Dr. Milanes-Roberts will discuss short and long-term strategies to address the challenges that contribute to disparities in healthcare for women.

Zoom Meeting ID: 98008507207

Passcode: 772448

Contact: Shellon Hall, [shellon.hall@rwjbh.org](mailto:shellon.hall@rwjbh.org)



## Community Baby Shower and Resource Fair

April 17th, 2 PM - 5 PM

Hosted by: Jersey City Medical Center

Location: 355 Grand Street - Conference Room 4E, Jersey City, NJ

Families can connect with certified doulas from the Partnership for Maternal and Child Health of Northern NJ and the Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs) and Women's Health Clinics (WHCs); meet with representatives from community agencies with resources to support healthy pregnancies; participate in a tour to familiarize themselves with the mother-baby unit at the Medical Center; receive new or gently used items donated by the community including clothes, car seats, strollers and other necessary. This event aims to empower and support Black mothers during their maternal journey, providing essential resources and connections.

Contact: Adrienne Austin, Esq., [Adrienne.Austin@rwjbh.org](mailto:Adrienne.Austin@rwjbh.org)



## Healthy Beginnings Paint & Chew

April 17th, 5 PM - 7 PM

Hosted by: BRICK/Healthy Beginnings

Location: TBD

In celebration of Black Maternal Health Week, join the Healthy Beginnings team for a relaxing, paint and chew event. Children are welcome.

Contact: A'Kayla Williams, [awilliams2@brickededucation.org](mailto:awilliams2@brickededucation.org)



## Community Baby Shower

April 17th

Hosted by: Southern Jersey Family Medical Centers

Location: All Wars Memorial Building 1510 Adriatic Ave. Atlantic City NJ

SJFMC is hosting a public community baby shower to arm expectant mothers/families and new mothers/families with the valuable education, health information, resources and supplies to give their new additions the best. Community partners will be in attendance, food will be provided, and guests will enjoy raffles and games. We will also feature an educational discussion on advocating for your health during pregnancy and beyond as we raise awareness on the disparities in maternal and infant health outcomes during Black Maternal Health Week.

Contact: Mika Highsmith-Hasan 856-298-8493



## Rowan-Virtua School of Osteopathic Medicine's Inaugural Virtual Black Maternal Health Summit

April 17th, 6 PM - 8:30 PM

Hosted by: Rowan-Virtua School of Osteopathic Medicine

Register [here](#).

Our conference will be a collaborative gathering that will unite medical students, healthcare professionals, and passionate advocates. It's an opportunity for us to share knowledge, experiences, and best practices in the field. We see it as a chance to amplify voices, build bridges, and ignite change. Our keynote speaker is Chanel Porcha-Albert and our panel discussion will be done by Planned Parenthood on their "My Black Health is Beautiful" curriculum.

Contact: Jaylyn Thompson, thomps94@rowan.edu



## Turning Up The Volume by Partnering with A Purpose: A Focus on Black Maternal Health

April 18th, 8:45 AM - 2:30 PM

Hosted by: Central Jersey Family Health Consortium

Location: Maggiano's Little Italy, 600 Commons Way, Bridgewater, NJ

According to the CDC, Black women are three times more likely to die from pregnancy-related causes than white women. Multiple factors contribute to these disparities, such as variations in healthcare access, chronic health conditions, and implicit bias. This one-day conference will enlighten the participants as to why this is still an issue. By the end of the conference, participants will be inspired to shift to a call to action to find ways to “Turn up the Volume” to improve Black Maternal Health. Guest speakers include Shawnee Gibson, Trashaun Powell, Dr. Ndidi Amutah-Onukagha, Crystal Charley & Peter Bullock!

Contact: Judith L. Francis, [Jfrancis@cjfhc.org](mailto:Jfrancis@cjfhc.org)



## Black Maternal Health Dental Day: Brushing for Two

April 19th, 9 AM - 12 PM

Hosted by: UHC Community Plan of NJ

Location: 1125 Atlantic Ave, Atlantic City, NJ 08401

UHC Community Plan of NJ in cooperation with So, Jersey Family Medicine will be providing Prenatal dental cleaning for UHC members. and an educational table in the OB area, which is adjacent to the Dental Department for all patients of SJFMC.

Contact: Marjean Stokes - Monroe, (609) 561-9150 x 5113



## BMHW Discussion Panel - Elevating Voices: Inspiring Reflection, Advocacy, and Change

April 19th, 10 AM - 12 PM

Hosted by: Care Plus NJ, Inc.

[Attend virtually here](#)

Our goal is to bring together individuals from various areas of expertise/disciplines who are passionate about and committed to the work necessary to elevate voices and raise awareness by challenging/eliminating the implicit bias that continues to plague our laws/policies/ institutions/providers, which in turn continues to silence voices and impact access to sufficient care to prevent the inadequate care and unnecessary loss of our Black mothers and babies.

Speakers include:

- Wanda Irving, MPA (Co-founder of Dr. Shalon's Maternal Action Project)
- Kanika Harris, PhD MMH (Director of Maternal and Child Health-Black Women's Initiative)
- Ladeana Artis, LCSW (Senior Director of Clinical Services and the Maternal & Family Center, Care Plus NJ)
- Dr. Azer Alizade FACOG, MBA Obstetrics, Gynecology, and Minimally Invasive Surgery, All Health Medical Group
- Tanisha Essanason, Community Advocate



## Health Insurance Application Help

April 20th, 10 AM - 4 PM

Hosted by: Promise Neighborhood Family Success Center

Location: 580 Benson St. Camden NJ 08103

At the Center For Family Services' Navigator Exchange Program, trained navigators (bilingual) can help you understand your healthcare options and assist you in completing the application.

Contact: Demi James, [demi.james@centerffs.org](mailto:demi.james@centerffs.org)



## Intro to Doula Care and Birth Support

April 20th, 2 PM - 4 PM

Hosted by: Newark Science and Sustainability

Location: Rutgers University

There is a rising trend among women in New Jersey -- Gestational Diabetes and Hypertension. Thus, the integration of a new training with a doula network for families with expectant women or newborn babies will ensure that good nutrition is beginning at the earliest possible age. Participants will gain a broader awareness of birth, nutrition, breastfeeding, and holistic parenting.

Contact: [Support@thebalanceddietllc.com](mailto:Support@thebalanceddietllc.com)



## Power of Our Voices Training

April 25th, 9 AM - 2 PM

Hosted by: Family Health Initiatives - Prematurity Prevention Initiative (PPI)

Register [here](#).

Power of Our Voices is a free two-day virtual train the trainer opportunity for community members, faith-based organizations, sororities and fraternities, and anyone else interested. The goal of the training is to improve the wellness of Black women and birthing people, families, and infants in New Jersey. During the training, participants will learn about the history of childbirth, racism, health equity and birth outcomes for Black women and birthing people, and infants. After completing the training, participants will receive a certificate of completion that can be listed on your resume, tools needed to train others in the future, and information about resources for New Jersey Families.

Contact: The PPI Team - [ppi@fhiworks.org](mailto:ppi@fhiworks.org)



## The Village Spring Fling

April 27th, 11 AM - 3 PM

Hosted by: It Takes a Village Housing

Location: 520 Market Street, Camden NJ 08012

It Takes a Village Housing will be having as many Camden non-profit organizations, corporations, and LLCs come and share all of their resources with Camden residents. This will be the opportunity for families to know where free resources are in the community.



## Maternal Health Crisis in the Black Community A viewing of “ Toxic, A Black Woman’s Story”

April 27th, 12 PM - 2 PM

Hosted by: Jamaica Organization of NJ - Bergen Chapter and  
Hackensack Meridian Health

Location: Wellness Center, 87 Route 17 North, Maywood, NJ, 07607

A viewing of “ Toxic, A Black Woman’s Story” will be followed by a panel discussion, featuring the following speakers:

- Antonia Francis Oladipo, MD, MSCI, FACOG, Maternal Fetal Medicine and Director of Research and Obstetrics and Gynecology Residency, Assistant Professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology, Course Co- Director, “ The Developing Human”
- Samantha Anderson, DNP, RN, NP-C, Women’s Health
- Portia Michele Chinnery, BSN, RN, CEN, CPPS, Director, Quality and Patient Safety Atlantic Health System

Contact: Novlette Hammond, Nov.hammond1@gmail.com