Expecting Justice
San Francisco Collective Impact for Healthy Births

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December 17th, 2019
SF’s Black Maternal Health Crisis

Preterm Birth Rates in SF, 2014-2018
Source: SF Birth Records Data, SFDPH 2019
What is preterm birth?

When a pregnant woman gives birth before 37 weeks of pregnancy

Other related adverse birth outcomes include:

■ Low Birth Weight (2.5x higher rate)
■ Maternal Mortality (50% of all maternal deaths in SF in last decade, only 4% of births)
■ Infant Mortality (3.3x higher for Black babies compared to White babies)

Source: SF Birth Records Data, SFDPH 2019
Why does it matter?

**AT BIRTH**
- Neurodevelopment
- Respiratory Challenges

**FIRST YEAR**
- Infant Mortality
- Impaired Attachment

**CHILDHOOD**
- Cognition
- Academic Achievement

**ADULTHOOD**
- Chronic Disease
- Earning Potential

Racism as a Root Cause

There is nothing inherent about Black skin that increases risk, except for overexposure to racism

- Dr. Monica McLemore
What is it like to be Black and Pregnant in San Francisco?
WOMAN OR PARTNER HAD PAY OR HOURS CUT DURING PREGNANCY

- **Homeless or did not have a place to sleep during pregnancy**
  - Black San Franciscans: 23.00%
  - San Francisco Average: 2.80%

- **Woman or partner had pay or hours cut during pregnancy**
  - Black San Franciscans: 15%
  - San Francisco Average: 8.20%

Source: MCAH Division Perinatal Equity Initiative, Maternal and Infant Health Indicators for San Francisco County. California Department of Public Health; 2019
Among Black women in SF, working during pregnancy is protective.

SF has the 2nd highest rate of black unemployment in the country.

Rates of Unemployment in SF

OFTEN WORRIED ABOUT RACISM THROUGHOUT HER LIFETIME

Source: MCAH Division Perinatal Equity Initiative, Maternal and Infant Health Indicators for San Francisco County. California Department of Public Health; 2019
WAS TOLD A PROVIDER EITHER WOULD NOT TAKE HER INSURANCE OR ACCEPT HER AS A PATIENT

Source: MCAH Division Perinatal Equity Initiative, Maternal and Infant Health Indicators for San Francisco County. California Department of Public Health; 2019
Stress

Many studies indicate that stress is linked to preterm birth—recent studies suggest it is a causal factor

- **Preconceptional chronic stress** increases risk of preterm birth, black women have higher rates of chronic stress

- Experiences of **racial discrimination** are moderately associated with preterm birth

- **Chronic worry about racial discrimination** is a form of stress linked to preterm birth


2013-2017 Median Family Income in San Francisco

U.S. Census Bureau; American Community Survey, 2017 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates, Table GCT0101; generated by Iris Wong; using American FactFinder; (08 Nov 2018).

- Single Adult, $55,861
- Single Adult with 1 preschooler, $104,839
- 2 Adults with 1 school-aged child and 1 preschooler, $123,442

**Groups and Incomes:**
- White only: $121,204
- Black/African American: $30,235
- Native Hawaiian and other Pacific Islander: $67,500
- Asian: $82,445
- Hispanic/Latino: $67,282
- Native American and other: $52,276
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Income Range</th>
<th>Families Rising</th>
<th>Black</th>
<th>Pacific Islander</th>
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<td>Less than $10,000</td>
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Families within this gap make too much to qualify but too little to be self-sufficient.

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**Distribution of Income for San Francisco Black and Pacific Islander Households in the Past 12 months (Percentage of Own Population)**

Single adult needs level

Family needs level

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Families Rising

CAAP

CalWORKs

Nurse-Family Partnership

Helping Newborns Reach Their Potential

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Black

Pacific Islander

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Families rising

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CAAP

CalWORKs

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Family needs level

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Single adult needs level

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San Francisco Collective Impact for Healthy Births

- Abundant Birth Project
  Pregnancy income supplement

- Policy Solutions

- SisterWeb
  Doula Access

- Multi-sector citywide collaboration

- HEART UP
  Anti-Racism skills building
Citywide Collaboration

- Engaged City Leaders
- Shared Understanding
- Producing Results!!
Doula Access

- City Funding for SisterWeb
- Hospital Integration
- Outcome Evaluation
- New Legislation
HEART UP SF
Anti-Racism Promotion

- Trained <500 SF gov staff
- Focus on skills building
- Leveraging Quality Improvement
Abundant Birth Project
Pregnancy income supplement

- Monthly stipend of $400-$1000 during pregnancy
- Pilot with 100 Black women in SF
- First of its kind in the US
- Exploring EITC policy as path for sustainability
None of our work is possible without our funders and partners.