

# Directory of Black Birth Workers 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 this Directory

This directory is an offshoot of the *Directory of African American Infant Mortality Efforts in Hennepin and Ramsey Counties*, a handout created 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). Starting with Summit registrants and later, additions by Summit attendees who reviewed it, the original directory contains the names and contact information of individuals and groups in Hennepin and Ramsey counties whose work touch on African American infant mortality. It is meant to serve as a starting point for them to connect with one another so they can marshal their collective strengths and resources to implement sustainable change. Out of that directory arose the need to produce a separate directory that exclusively lists black birth workers. This *Directory of Black Birth Workers in Hennepin and Ramsey Counties* has the names and contact information of direct service providers who are either of African descent or work largely with people of African descent in these counties. The content is crowd-sourced, therefore it is a living document. The intended user is any woman or a family member looking for culturally competent perinatal care (preconception, pregnancy, birthing, or post-partum care) or other birthing resources.

## Table of Contents

Corporation or Small Business .....	1
Nonprofit.....	2
Paraprofessionals.....	6
Medical/Clinical Care Providers .....	9
Elected Official .....	13
Local/State/Tribal Government .....	13
Coalitions or Collaboratives .....	15
Index.....	17

## Corporation or Small Business

NAME	MISSION	OVERVIEW OF INFANT MORTALITY RELATED WORK	CONTACT
Black Family Blueprint	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.	Provides childbirth and parenting education, professional development, family coaching	<b>Ayolanda Evans, Founder &amp; Director</b> <a href="mailto:blankfamilyblueprint@gmail.com">blankfamilyblueprint@gmail.com</a> 612-481-0312 Logan Ave N Minneapolis, MN 55411
Samuel Simmons Consulting	To provide unique and innovative culturally sensitive trauma informed materials and services to promote self-improvement, empowerment, healing and hope the communities being serviced.	Developing and building collaborations with likely and unlikely partners to challenge systems to create and provide prenatal care educational and training materials to increase the involvement of men and fathers of color.	<b>Sam Simmons</b> 3033 27th Ave S P.O. Box 6120 Minneapolis, MN 55406-9998 PHONE: 612-721-0106 <a href="mailto:simmonsconsulting@comcast.net">simmonsconsulting@comcast.net</a>
Sun Baby Publishing	Composer, musician, community teaching, artist.	Writing, and creating art and music, talking about childbirth, motherhood and healing, through music.	<b>Kashimana Ahua, Musician</b> <a href="mailto:Kashimana.ahua@gmail.com">Kashimana.ahua@gmail.com</a> 651-307-8566 1262 James Avenue St. Paul, MN 55105
Taylor & Mensah In-Homecare Inc	To provide tailored and dignified quality care to clients in their own homes.	Started by black nurse educators who have worked in the area of maternal/newborn health. The organization is exploring a partnership with March of Dimes to provide group prenatal care to the underserved populations in the Twin cities area.	<b>Ekua Taylor Kregel, Owner</b> <a href="mailto:Ekua@taylormensahcare.com">Ekua@taylormensahcare.com</a> 612-201-1290 23 Empire Dr. St Paul, MN 55041

NAME	MISSION	OVERVIEW OF INFANT MORTALITY RELATED WORK	CONTACT
Welcome Baby Care	To serve people bringing newborns into their families.	A personalized postpartum support team - certified postpartum doulas, night nurses, and lactation consultants – that can provide in-home care, education, skill and expertise before and after the baby arrives. Also offers postpartum doula certification.	<b>Tory Kielas-Jensen, Owner</b> <a href="mailto:tory@welcomebabycare.com">tory@welcomebabycare.com</a> , 612-889-4664 7900 International Dr. Bloomington, MN 55425
Equity Strategies, LLC	Participatory Leadership for an Equitable World. With a record of accomplishment of its principal consultant’s experience, brings new perspectives and fresh thinking to your board, organization, or project.	We aim to help participants co-create and co-host with others, blending the collective wisdom in a working partnership and give back a plan of action reflecting the harvest of answers, patterns, insight, and learnings, resulting in wise action.	<b>Dr. Antonia Apolinario-Wilcoxon, Ed.D.</b> 1310 Preston Lane Hopkins, MN 55343 952-200-5334 <a href="mailto:antoniaapolinario1@gmail.com">antoniaapolinario1@gmail.com</a>

## 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 who are committed to promoting the healthy development of African American babies.	<b>Sameerah Bilal-Roby, AABC Project Director</b> <a href="mailto:sameerah@africanamericanbabies.org">sameerah@africanamericanbabies.org</a> 1-800-550-7195 Amherst H. Wilder Foundation 451 Lexington Parkway N. Saint Paul, MN 55104

NAME	MISSION	OVERVIEW OF INFANT MORTALITY RELATED WORK	CONTACT
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.	<b>Rebecca Nathan, Course Developer/Educator/Consultant</b> <a href="mailto:aviellahcc@gmail.com">aviellahcc@gmail.com</a> , 901-691-0423 1425 11th Ave N Minneapolis, MN 55411
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.	<b>Akhmiri Sekhr-Ra, Chief Program Officer</b> <a href="mailto:akhmiri@culturalwellnesscenter.org">akhmiri@culturalwellnesscenter.org</a> 612-721-5745 2025 Portland Ave. S. Minneapolis, MN 55404
Healing Brothers	Empowering African American men and their families to live in a healthier and safer communities.	Provides unique and innovative culturally sensitive trauma-informed approaches that focus on ways to assist individuals and organizations working in the African American community as well as communities of color to promote empowerment, healing and a healthy and thriving community.	<b>Sam Simmons</b> 3033 27th Ave S P.O. Box 6120 Minneapolis, MN 55406-9998 612-721-0106 <a href="mailto:simmonsconsulting@comcast.net">simmonsconsulting@comcast.net</a>
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.	<b>VJ Smith, CEO</b> <a href="mailto:vjsmith@minneapolismaddads.org">vjsmith@minneapolismaddads.org</a> 612-822-0802 3026 4th Avenue South Minneapolis, MN 55408

NAME	MISSION	OVERVIEW OF INFANT MORTALITY RELATED WORK	CONTACT
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.	<b>Sierra Williams, Doula/Owner/Breastfeeding Peer</b> <a href="mailto:sierraleonewilliams@gmail.com">sierraleonewilliams@gmail.com</a> 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, immigrants, and international medical graduates so they can get recertified and practice their professions in Minnesota, thus diversifying the healthcare workforce to decrease health disparities, including African American infant mortality disparities.	<b>Wilhelmina Holder, Director of Programs</b> <a href="mailto:finaholder@gmail.com">finaholder@gmail.com</a> 651-226-0429 <b>Simon Carvalho, Medical Graduate</b> <a href="mailto:simplemedicine@hotmail.com">simplemedicine@hotmail.com</a> 651-699-4473 1821 University Ave. West, Suite 328-S St. Paul, MN 55104
National Black Nurse Practitioner Association	Our mission is to empower the advancement of Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRNs) in their profession, fostering social fellowship among members and serve as philanthropists.	Patient education at the community level.	<b>Shirlynn LaChapelle, Member</b> <a href="mailto:shirlynn7@gmail.com">shirlynn7@gmail.com</a> , 612-382-0431 9654 Harbor Lane N. Maple Grove, MN 55369

NAME	MISSION	OVERVIEW OF INFANT MORTALITY RELATED WORK	CONTACT
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 program which focuses on reducing infant mortality and reducing low birth weight babies. We work with pregnant and post-partum women to provide culturally specific birth and afterbirth support.	<p><b>Tee McClenty, Project Manager, CPPM</b>  <a href="mailto:tmccclenty@npimn.org">tmccclenty@npimn.org</a>  612-767-9155</p> <p><b>LaShonda Washington, Community Health Worker</b>  <a href="mailto:lwashington@northpointinc.org">lwashington@northpointinc.org</a>  612-767-9173</p> <p><b>Fadila Ibrahim, Community Health Worker</b>  <a href="mailto:fibrahim@northpointinc.org">fibrahim@northpointinc.org</a>  612-483-2794</p> <p><b>Aja King, Therapist</b>  <a href="mailto:adkingaking@gmail.com">adkingaking@gmail.com</a>  205-451-7995  1256 Penn Avenue North, Suite 5300,  Minneapolis, MN 55411</p>
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.	SPPN collaborates 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.	<p><b>Jolene Mason, Community Coordinator</b>  <a href="mailto:jolene.mason@wilder.org">jolene.mason@wilder.org</a>  651-621-4503</p> <p><b>Ebony Young, Admin</b>  <a href="mailto:ebony.young@wilder.org">ebony.young@wilder.org</a>  763-807-2939  451 N. Lexington Pkwy  St. Paul, MN 55104</p>
Way to Grow	To ensure that every child has an equal opportunity to succeed in school and life	Provides education on the stages of prenatal development, birth preparation, expectations or parenting, safe sleep, safety, child development, including group education for teen parents and groups for pregnant moms and caregivers with young children that are health and development focused.	<p><b>Ronel Robinson, Program Director</b>  <a href="mailto:rrobinson@mplswaytogrow.org">rrobinson@mplswaytogrow.org</a>  612-874-4740  201 Irving Avenue North  Minneapolis, MN 55405</p>

# Paraprofessionals

## 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.	<p><b>Clara Akbar-Bey, Co-owner</b>  <a href="mailto:ahavahbirthworks@gmail.com">ahavahbirthworks@gmail.com</a>            763-516-6148            3726 Sheridan Ave N            Minneapolis, MN 55412</p> <p><b>Ric Howard</b></p>
Black Moon Bodywork	Black Moon Bodywork LLC invites women in community leadership - femmes and families, heads of households, and heads 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.	Bodywork and coaching, health education in nutrition, exercise, mindfulness, and community building for women and femmes with reproductive health issues such as painful periods, endometriosis, or infertility, through pregnancy, and into postpartum recovery.	<p><b>Ihotu Ali, Owner &amp; Founder, Bodyworker and Doula</b>  <a href="mailto:Blackmoonbodywork@gmail.com">Blackmoonbodywork@gmail.com</a>            952-212-4499            406 Cedar Lake Road S            Minneapolis, MN 55405</p>
Doula4All	Every single person who is bringing new life into the world deserves support. Doula4All provides culturally aware compassionate care to families in Minneapolis, Saint Paul, and surrounding	Nadine Ashby is a black birth doula who works with African American birthing people to help them make empowered choices and create space for them to advocate for themselves and their babies.	<p><b>Nadine Ashby, Founder and Birth Doula</b>  <a href="mailto:nadine@doula4all.com">nadine@doula4all.com</a>            612-968-2471            Minneapolis, MN 55407</p>



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	<p>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.</p>		
<p>Doula Kaytee</p>	<p>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.</p>	<p>Kaytee Crawford is a doula who helps make sure that black women are being treated correctly and listened to, and that they receive the highest level care no matter what.</p>	<p><b>Kaytee Crawford, Doula</b>  <a href="mailto:doulakaytee@gmail.com">doulakaytee@gmail.com</a>            952-237-6478            1291 Van Buren Avenue            St. Paul, MN 55104</p>
<p>Lotus Birth &amp; BodyWorks</p>	<p>Lotus Birth&amp; BodyWorks Lotus strives to support individuals and families through all pregnancy outcomes and labor and delivery choices</p>	<p>Provides full-spectrum Doula support (Abortion/Loss, Birth, and Postpartum), Childbirth Education, Lactation Education, Placenta Encapsulation, and Massage Therapy.</p>	<p><b>Rochelle Vincent, Owner</b>  <a href="mailto:rochellevincent@gmail.com">rochellevincent@gmail.com</a>            952-220-8149            35 Pineview Lane N            Plymouth, MN 55441</p>
<p>Musical Beginnings</p>	<p>Using music to assist delivery and bonding</p>	<p>Willette has a BA in Music Therapy and is a certified doula who helps build doula capacity among Black people.</p>	<p><b>Willette Whitted, Certified Doula</b>            Musical Beginnings            1601 Oak Park Ave N            Minneapolis, MN 55411</p>
<p>Sunshine Mama Doula Care</p>	<p>Love Advocate-helping mamas bring babies into the world with light and love, believing in the power of mamas and families to make informed decisions about their care, decisions not based on monetary gain but on the health and wellbeing of each woman and the child they are carrying</p>	<p>Melissa Mitchell is a strength-filled advocate surrounding beautiful mamas with love, knowledgeable care and compassion as they bring life into this world. Certified through both International Center for Traditional Childbearing (ICTC) and Common Sense Childbirth, she has been a doula and</p>	<p><b>Melissa Mitchell, Certified Perinatal Educator</b>  <a href="mailto:melissamitchellcppm@gmail.com">melissamitchellcppm@gmail.com</a>            651-470-7113</p>

NAME	MISSION	OVERVIEW OF INFANT MORTALITY RELATED WORK	CONTACT
		perinatal educator for 11 years. She offers both prenatal and postpartum services to families to help them transition into life with their new baby.	
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 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.	Provides 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.	<b>Jasmine Boudah, Founder</b> <a href="mailto:ubuntuminneapolis@gmail.com">ubuntuminneapolis@gmail.com</a> 773-501-5906 2940 Vincent Ave North Minneapolis, MN 55411

## BODYWORKERS

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Black Moon Bodywork	Black Moon Bodywork LLC invites women in community leadership - femmes and families, heads of households and heads 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	Bodywork and coaching, health education in nutrition, exercise, mindfulness, and community building for women and femmes with reproductive health issues such as painful periods, endometriosis, or infertility, through pregnancy, and into postpartum recovery.	<b>Ihotu Ali, Owner &amp; Founder, Bodyworker and Doula</b> <a href="mailto:Blackmoonbodywork@gmail.com">Blackmoonbodywork@gmail.com</a> 952-212-4499 406 Cedar Lake Road S Minneapolis, MN 55405

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	and carried forward by the vision work of Afrofuturism.		

## Medical/Clinical Care Providers

### MIDWIVES

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- and post-natal care by addressing and magnifying how structural and systemic racism leads to social determinants of health (SDOH) negatively impacting birth outcomes.	<p><b>Diane Banigo, Co-Director and Project Manager</b>  <a href="mailto:dbanigo@mncare.org">dbanigo@mncare.org</a>  651-793-2272</p> <p><b>Sonja Batalden, Director of Perinatal Care</b>  <a href="mailto:sbatalden@mncare.org">sbatalden@mncare.org</a>  651-602-7565</p> <p><b>Kindra D McGee, Patient Navigator</b>  <a href="mailto:kmcgee@mncare.org">kmcgee@mncare.org</a>  651-202-1116  895 E. 7th Street  St Paul, MN 55106</p>
NorthPoint/Chosen Vessels Midwifery	To encourage all women to breastfeed and support all those that do.	Promote.Support.Advocate Breastfeeding	<p><b>Dr. Lavonne Moore, Midwife</b>  <a href="mailto:Kemetcircle@hotmail.com">Kemetcircle@hotmail.com</a>  612-850-0016  1313 Penn Av N  Minneapolis, MN 55411</p>

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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 U.S.-born African American women that is being piloted.	<b>Dominique Jones, CNM</b> <a href="mailto:Jone0821@umn.edu">Jone0821@umn.edu</a> 763-232-2336 730 S 8 <sup>th</sup> St Minneapolis, MN 55415

## HEALTH SYSTEMS AND CLINICS

NAME	MISSION	OVERVIEW OF INFANT MORTALITY RELATED WORK	CONTACT
Allina Health	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 Allina’s Mother Baby Center, pregnancy, childbirth and neonatal experts provide a unique, personalized experience and top-notch care throughout the childbirth journey. The 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 hospital.	<b>Lisa Archer, Patient Care Director, The Mother Baby Center</b> <a href="mailto:lisa.archer@allina.com">lisa.archer@allina.com</a> , 651-241-6284 333 Smith Ave St. Paul, MN 55102
Children’s Health Network	To partner with pediatric providers across our community to drive the highest quality care for the children and families we serve.	Children’s Health Network (CHN) is the largest and only clinically integrated network dedicated exclusively to kids in Minnesota. Network participants include independent clinics and those affiliated	<b>Tamika Lasege, MD (neonatologist) Medical Director – Value-Based Care</b> <a href="mailto:Tamika.lasege@childrensmn.org">Tamika.lasege@childrensmn.org</a>

NAME	MISSION	OVERVIEW OF INFANT MORTALITY RELATED WORK	CONTACT
		with or owned by Children’s Minnesota, and along the entire care continuum of primary, specialty and hospital-based care. Dr. Lasege is a board certified neonatologist and pediatrician at Children’s Minnesota.	
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 U.S.-born African American women. The curriculum is being developed and will include culture perspectives throughout the teachings and will be piloted in either late 2019 or early 2020.	<b>Dominique Jones, CNM</b> <a href="mailto:Jone0821@umn.edu">Jone0821@umn.edu</a> 763-232-2336 730 S 8 <sup>th</sup> St Minneapolis, MN 55415
HealthPartners Clinic – Health Center for Women	To improve health and well-being in partnership with our members, patients and community.	The HealthPartners Health Center for Women specializes in caring for the unique needs of women (ages 12 and older) and offers a wide range of on-site services including internal medicine, family medicine, Ob/Gyn and pregnancy care, mental health counseling, nutrition consultations, acupuncture, and medication therapy management.	<b>Susannah Okutoro-Ketter, CNM</b> 917-470-0518 <b>Lois Cannon, APRN, CNM</b> 612-669-0796 2635 University Ave, #160 St. Paul, MN 55114
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 African American women who are pregnant for mothers of children up to 1 years old.	<b>Ciana Cullens, Outreach</b> <a href="mailto:ciana.cullens@opencitieshealth.org">ciana.cullens@opencitieshealth.org</a> 651-428-9636 <b>Isha Mohamed, Women's Health Coordinator</b> <a href="mailto:isha.mohamed@hotmail.com">isha.mohamed@hotmail.com</a> , 651-251-5987 409 Dunlap St. St Paul, MN 55104

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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.	<b>Rochelle Johnson, Director of Nursing</b> <a href="mailto:Rochelle.l.johnson@Healthpartners.com">Rochelle.l.johnson@Healthpartners.com</a> 651-254-3581 601 Jackson Street St. Paul, MN 55101

## PRIVATE PRACTICES

NAME	MISSION	OVERVIEW OF INFANT MORTALITY RELATED WORK	CONTACT
Kelly McGregory Pediatrics LLC	Physician (Pediatrics)	Provides primary healthcare for infants, children, adolescents and young adults in a small and welcoming clinic.	<b>Kelly McGregory, Physician Owner</b> <a href="mailto:DrKelly@kmpediatrics.org">DrKelly@kmpediatrics.org</a> 6000 Bass Lake Rd Suite 102 Crystal, MN 55419 763-432-9788
Sheila Sweeney, PhD, LICSW, IMH-E® Psychotherapist	Peaces 'n PuzSouls promotes mental health by providing individualized and quality psychotherapy to individuals, families, and communities with diverse challenges.	Sheila Sweeney is an African-American Clinical Social Worker, trained in psychodynamic therapy with a focus in Mind, Body, and Spirit connection. She specializes in infant mental health.	<b>Sheila Sweeney</b> <a href="mailto:drsweeney@ppjth.com">drsweeney@ppjth.com</a> 651-797-4094 office/fax 777 Selby Avenue Saint Paul, MN 55104 <a href="http://www.ppjth.com">www.ppjth.com</a>

## Elected Official

NAME	MISSION	OVERVIEW OF INFANT MORTALITY RELATED WORK	CONTACT
Minnesota House of Representatives	Ruth Richardson (D) represents District 52B in the Minnesota House of Representatives. Her vision includes safe, healthy communities; economic growth; quality education for all; women’s right and choice; affordable healthcare; and, accountability and transparency in the democratic process.	Has sponsored legislation related to maternal health; prenatal alcohol exposure screenings for children in out-of-home placement; violence against African American women; child abuse and neglect prevention programs; childhood trauma-informed policy and practices; fetal alcohol spectrum disorder reduction programs; diaper purchase for food shelves; child care assistance to low income workers; earned sick and safe time; paid family, pregnancy, bonding, and serious medical condition benefits.	<b>Ruth Richardson, Representative, Member from 52B</b> <a href="mailto:rep.ruth.richardson@house.mn">rep.ruth.richardson@house.mn</a> , 651-329-2334 100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Blvd. St. Paul, MN 55155-1298

## Local/State/Tribal Government

NAME	MISSION	OVERVIEW OF INFANT MORTALITY RELATED WORK	CONTACT
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	<b>Coral Garner, Division Director MCAH</b> <a href="mailto:coral.garner@minneapolismn.gov">coral.garner@minneapolismn.gov</a> 612-919-3856 250 South 4th Street Minneapolis, MN 55104

NAME	MISSION	OVERVIEW OF INFANT MORTALITY RELATED WORK	CONTACT
		populations disproportionately impacted, i.e., Black, Hispanic and American Indian.	
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.	<b>Michelle Chiezah, State Infant Health and Mortality Reduction Specialist</b> <a href="mailto:Michelle.chiezah@state.mn.us">Michelle.chiezah@state.mn.us</a> 651-201-3621 85 E 7th Place, Suite 220 Saint Paul, MN 55164
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.	<b>LaSherion McDonald, Health Educator</b> <a href="mailto:lasherion.mcdonald@CO.RAMSEY.MN.U">lasherion.mcdonald@CO.RAMSEY.MN.U</a> 651-785-6916
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.	<b>Stephanie Johnson, Breastfeeding Peer Counselor - 313-598-7957</b> <a href="mailto:Stephanie.Johnson@co.ramsey.mn.us">Stephanie.Johnson@co.ramsey.mn.us</a>  Jennifer Davis -651-485-8638 <a href="mailto:Jennifer.davis1@co.ramsey.mn.us">Jennifer.davis1@co.ramsey.mn.us</a> Aliesha Newell -651-485-2276 <a href="mailto:Aliesha.newell@co.ramsey.mn.us">Aliesha.newell@co.ramsey.mn.us</a> 555 Cedar St St. Paul, MN 55101
St. Paul Ramsey County Public Health (Family Health)	SPRCPH mission: a county of excellence working with you to enhance our quality of life.	Club Mom & Club Dad-monthly parenting support groups for parents with children 0-5yrs.	<b>Tamiko Ralston, PHN-Clinician</b> <a href="mailto:tamiko.ralston@co.ramsey.mn.us">tamiko.ralston@co.ramsey.mn.us</a> 651-266-1585 1670 Beam Ave. (Ste. 101)



NAME	MISSION	OVERVIEW OF INFANT MORTALITY RELATED WORK	CONTACT
	SPRCPH vision: A vibrant community where all are valued and thrive.	<p>Birth Equity Community Council (BECC) - authentic community-engaged collaborative that is data driven, engages in racial healing activities, and is focused on public health strategies to reduce inequities in birth outcomes.</p> <p>Participants are community residents, and partners in birth equity come from state and local levels and from public and private sectors.</p>	Maplewood, MN 55109

## Coalitions or Collaboratives

NAME	MISSION	OVERVIEW OF INFANT MORTALITY RELATED WORK	CONTACT
Integrated Care for High Risk Pregnancies (ICHRP)	Promote integrated care and enhanced services to pregnant women who are medical assistance enrollees residing in geographic areas identified as being at above-average risk for adverse birth outcomes including low birth weight, prematurity, maternal opiate addiction, and other reportable prenatal substance abuse.	<p>Integrated Care for High Risk Pregnancies (ICHRP) is a grant program in the Minnesota Department of Human Services that was established through legislation. ICHRP grantees promote integrated care and enhanced services to pregnant women at high risk for adverse birth outcomes through the use of integrated perinatal care collaboratives. These collaboratives support interdisciplinary, team-based needs assessments, infrastructure planning, and</p>	<p><b>Karen Gray, Project Manager</b>  <a href="mailto:kgray@grayhall.com">kgray@grayhall.com</a>  651-222-8333</p> <p><i>ICHRP Partners:</i></p> <p><b>African American Babies Coalition</b>  Sameerah Bilal-Roby,  <a href="mailto:sameerah@africanamericanbabies.org">sameerah@africanamericanbabies.org</a>  1-800-550-7195 or  451 Lexington Parkway N.  Saint Paul, MN 55104</p>

NAME	MISSION	OVERVIEW OF INFANT MORTALITY RELATED WORK	CONTACT
		implementation of integrated care and enhanced services.	<p><b>NorthPoint Health and Wellness</b> 612-543-2500 1313 Penn Avenue North Minneapolis, MN 55411</p> <p><b>DIVA Moms - Minnesota Community Care</b> <a href="mailto:dbanigo@mncare.org">dbanigo@mncare.org</a> 651-793-2272</p> <p><b>Open Cities Health Center – Nubian Moms</b> Ciana Cullens, Outreach <a href="mailto:ciana.cullens@opencitieshealth.org">ciana.cullens@opencitieshealth.org</a> 651-428-9636</p>

# Index

## A

African American Babies Coalition (AABC).....	2
Ahavah Birth Works .....	6
Allina Health.....	10
Aviellah Curriculum and Consulting .....	3

## B

Black Family Blueprint.....	1
Black Moon Bodywork .....	6, 8

## C

Children’s Health Network.....	10
City of Minneapolis Health Department .....	13
Cultural Wellness Center .....	3

## D

Doula Kaytee.....	7
Doula4All.....	6

## H

Hennepin Healthcare .....	10, 11
---------------------------	--------

## K

Kashimana Ahua Sun Baby Publishing .....	1
Kelly McGregory Pediatrics LLC.....	12

## L

Lotus Birth & BodyWorks.....	7
------------------------------	---

## M

MAD DADS of Minneapolis .....	3
Minnesota Community Care-DIVA Moms.....	9
Minnesota Department of Health, State Infant Mortality Reduction Initiative.....	14
Minnesota House of Representatives.....	13
Minnesota Prison Doula Project/MileStone Creations/Sierra's Sparkle Shop/WIC....	4

## N

National Black Nurse Practitioner Association .....	4
New Americans Alliance for Development (NAAD) .....	4
NorthPoint Health & Wellness Center, Inc. ....	5
NorthPoint/Chosen Vessels Midwifery.....	9

## O

Open Cities Health Center .....	11
---------------------------------	----

## R

Ramsey County Public Health .....	14
Ramsey County WIC.....	14
Regions Hospital- HealthPartners .....	12

## S

Saint Paul Promise Neighborhood .....	5
SPRCPH-Family Health (Birth Equity Community Council).....	14
Sunshine Mama Doula Care.....	7

## T

Taylor & Mensah In-Homecare Inc .....	1
---------------------------------------	---

**U**

Ubuntu Minneapolis ..... 8

**W**

Way to Grow ..... 5  
Welcome Baby Care ..... 2, 7