



## AFRICAN AMERICAN INFANT AND MATERNAL MORTALITY PREVENTION INITIATIVE

[BlackInfantsAndFamilies.org](https://www.blackinfantsandfamilies.org)



### WHAT IS AAIMM?

The African American Infant and Maternal Mortality Prevention Initiative (**AAIMM**) is a collaborative effort of the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health, First 5 LA, community-based organizations, community members, birthworkers, clinicians, parents and families, united to end the alarmingly high rates of Black maternal and infant death. AAIMM is rooted in the understanding that historical and systemic racism are the reason racial disparities in health exist. AAIMM works to ensure that Black families across Los Angeles County experience healthy and joyous pregnancies and births and have thriving infants.

#### WHY AAIMM MATTERS:



**BLACK WOMEN ARE 4X MORE LIKELY TO DIE FROM PREGNANCY-RELATED COMPLICATIONS THAN WOMEN OF OTHER RACES.**



**BLACK BABIES IN LA COUNTY ARE 2-3X MORE LIKELY TO DIE BEFORE THEIR FIRST BIRTHDAY COMPARED TO BABIES OF OTHER RACES.**

**AAIMM works to dismantle this injustice and build a future where Black families live free from preventable loss and harm.**

(Source: Vital Statistics Data Summary African American Infant and Maternal Mortality Prevention Initiative (AAIMM). Prepared by Los Angeles County Department of Public Health, Health Promotion Bureau, Division of Maternal, Child, & Adolescent Health. [https://www.blackinfantsandfamilies.org/fact\\_vs\\_misperception](https://www.blackinfantsandfamilies.org/fact_vs_misperception))

### HOW WE MAKE AN IMPACT

We believe in the power of “The Village,” a comprehensive system of support before, during, and after birth.

#### Together, the AAIMM coalition:

- Centers Black voices and experiences
- Raises awareness of racism as the root cause of inequities
- Advocates for quality care delivered with respect and dignity
- Provides direct support to families through culturally empowering services
- Equips and inspires community members to take action in support of safe and joyous Black births
- Invites all Angelenos to join us in eliminating preventable Black infant and maternal mortality and morbidity

**AAIMM is both a movement and a network of support for Black women/birthing people and their families.**

## AAIMM'S PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

- ✓ AAIMM Doula Program
- ✓ Fatherhood Program
- ✓ Group prenatal care and preconception health
- ✓ AAIMM Village Fund grantmaking
- ✓ Communications/public awareness
- ✓ Community Action Teams (CAT)
- ✓ County-Community co-leadership and infrastructure, including a countywide Steering Committee
- ✓ Abundant Birth Project guaranteed income pilot
- ✓ Policy and Advocacy, and the MotherBoard lived experience advisory board
- ✓ AAIMM Compassion Response financial support after loss

### **Culturally relevant programs & support:**

Doula services, fatherhood support groups and expectant fathers learning series, pregnancy and postpartum support, home visiting, and breast/chestfeeding resources.

**Community advocacy:** Action Teams across four LA County regions (South LA/South Bay, Antelope Valley, San Gabriel Valley, San Fernando Valley).

**Public engagement:** Events, storytelling, policy and advocacy, and collective action to advance Black birth equity.

**Safe Spaces:** Partnering with local businesses, community-based and non-profit organizations to create welcoming breast/chestfeeding and diaper-changing areas/spaces.

**Grantmaking:** AAIMM Village Fund for community-led efforts that support the physical and mental well-being of Black women/birthing persons, fathers, partners, and families before, during, and after birth.

## WHO WE REACH

- Expectant Black mothers and birthing people across LA County
- Expectant Black fathers, fathers of Black children and fatherhood ambassadors
- Families, neighbors, community organizations, faith-based organizations, providers, and advocates who make up "The Village"
- Local businesses, community-based, and non-profit organizations ready to join the Safe Space efforts



**AAIMM is a Black-led, Black-centered collaborative rooted in community and unwavering in our commitment to birth equity.**

## GET CONNECTED AND INVOLVED:

-  [BlackInfantsAndFamilies.org](https://BlackInfantsAndFamilies.org)
-  [@BlackInfantsAndFamiliesLA](https://www.instagram.com/BlackInfantsAndFamiliesLA)
-  [fb.com/BlackInfantsAndFamilies](https://www.facebook.com/BlackInfantsAndFamilies)

### IN COMMUNITY

Look for AAIMM at health expos, community events, and neighborhood gatherings.

