Perinatal Health Disparities

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Maternal and Infant Health Outcome Measures

- Maternal Health Factors/Measures
  - Early Prenatal Care
  - Regular and Respectful Prenatal Care
  - Maternal Health prior to pregnancy
  - Maternal Morbidity and Mortality

- Infant Health Measures
  - Preterm Birth Rates
  - Infant Mortality
Health Equity Definition

- ASTHO - Association of State and Territorial Health Officers
- Policy Statement:

Health Equity is defined as the “attainment of the highest level of health for all people. Achieving health equity requires valuing everyone equally with focused and ongoing societal efforts to address avoidable inequalities, historical and contemporary injustices, and the elimination of health and healthcare disparities”
Infant Health Outcomes - Prematurity

Figure 2. Preterm Birth Rates and Trends by Race/Ethnicity, County of Fresno, 2013-2017

Source: Automated Vital Statistics System
Prematurity by Geography

Figure 4. Preterm Birth Rate, County of Fresno, 2013-2017

Legend:
- HWY
- HP2020: 11.4
  - 2.9 - 11.4
  - 11.5 - 18.5
  - Census Tract

Source: Automated Vital Statistics System (AVSSS)
Figure 2. Infant Mortality Rates and Trends by Race/Ethnicity, County of Fresno, 2013-2017

Source: Automated Vital Statistics System
Infant Mortality Geography

Figure 2. Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Live Births by Census Tract, 2013—2017

Legend:
- HWY
- 0.0 - 5.0
- 6.1 - 9.1
- 9.2 - 14.3
- 14.4 - 35.5

Source: Automated Vital Statistics System (AVSS)
Interventions to improve health outcomes and eliminate disparities

- Black Infant Health Program
  - Since 1988
- Perinatal Health Equity Initiative - New
  - Fatherhood Involvement
  - Doula Care
- Federal Health Start - Babies First
  - Started in Fresno City 1997 - Home Visitation, Fatherhood and Group Prenatal care
- Best Baby Zone - Fresno GROWS (Growing Real Opportunities for West Fresno)
  - Place based community initiative in 93706
black infant health❤️
Empowering Pregnant and Mothering African American Women
NEVER FEAR...

The Fresno County
BLACK INFANT HEALTH
Program

IS HERE!!!
Our Goals

• Reducing stress and isolation
• Fostering social support
• Empowering women to build healthier lives for themselves and their families

We encourage our women to “Be Empowered. Dream Big.”
Our Intervention

• Group Empowerment Sessions
  • (10 prenatal and 10 postpartum)
• One-on-one Case Management Services
• Life planning and goal setting
• Linkage to community resources
Group Session Themes
(10 prenatal & 10 postpartum)

• African-American heritage
• Stress and stress reduction
• Understanding how to meet your needs
• Self-advocacy skills
• Nutrition and physical activity
• Labor and delivery
• Infant and toddler parenting
• Safety
• Healthy relationships
• Planning for the future

Health Disparities
✓ Diabetes
✓ High blood pressure
✓ Obesity
✓ Breastfeeding
✓ SIDS
✓ STIs
BIH is in Local Health Jurisdictions where more than 90% of African American live births occur.
Who is Eligible?

- Any pregnant African American woman less than 30 weeks of pregnancy
- 18 years of age or older
- Reside in Fresno County
- Consent to actively participate in BIH—both group and case management
LIKE US ON FACEBOOK!

We are now at 570 likes.
Help us get to 1000+!
SPREAD THE WORD!

- Assume that every woman needs the support (not just those considered to be high-risk, noncompliant or lacking support)
  - This issue affects every African American woman
  - We accept ALL African American Women regardless of income or education level
- Offer the referral **not** the program
- Fax over the Pregnancy Services Referral
- Direct those who are interested in learning more about our services to our website (www.bihfresno.org) or our Facebook page (Fresno County Black Infant Health)
- Ask for support (email or drop off of materials, follow up on referrals sent, in-service presentations, etc.)
More BIH Events...

- Mama & Baby Care Workshop
- Self Care Workshop
- Black History Month Event
- And much more to come.

Black Breastfeeding Week
OUR MOTHERS SPEAK ON BIH

“I really enjoyed the support and comradery, as well as the sisterhood and the embracing of our Black history. BIH encouraged me to be my own advocate”

“I enjoyed the unity and open environment. The Black Infant Health program did a lot for me. It’s honestly an amazing program”