



MEDIA ADVISORY
November 10, 2020

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U.S. Commission on Civil Rights Virtual Briefing Racial Disparities in Maternal Health

WHAT:

On Friday, November 13, 2020, at 10:00 a.m. Eastern Time, the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights will hold a [virtual briefing](#) to examine the federal role in addressing racial disparities in maternal health outcomes, including negative pregnancy-related health outcomes and pregnancy-related deaths of women in the United States. The Commission will analyze current data regarding pregnancy-related and pregnancy-associated deaths, including data collected by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the National Institute of Minority Health and Health Disparities, and the Department of Health and Human Services' State Partnership Initiative to Address Health Disparities. The Commission will hear from subject matter experts such as government officials, academics, healthcare providers, advocates, and impacted persons.

WHO:

- I. Introductory Remarks: 10:00 – 10:05 a.m. EST
 - [Catherine E. Lhamon](#), Chair, U.S. Commission on Civil Rights
- II. Panel 1: Policy and Legislation: 10:05 – 11:05 a.m. EST
 - U.S. Representative Ayanna Pressley (MA-07)
 - Jennifer E. Moore, Ph.D., R.N., F.A.A.N. – Founding Executive Director, Institute for Medicaid Innovation
 - Shanna Cox, M.S.P.H. – Associate Director for Science, Division of Reproductive Health, Center for Disease Control and Prevention
 - Shannon Dowler, M.D. – Chief Medical Officer, North Carolina Medicaid
 - Garth Graham, M.D., M.P.H. – Former Deputy Assistant Secretary for Minority Health, Department of Health and Human Services
- III. Break: 11:05 – 11:15 a.m. EST
- IV. Panel 2: Service Providers/Private Organizations: 11:15 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. EST
 - Angela Doyinsola Aina, M.P.H. – Co-Founding Executive Director, Black Mamas Matter Alliance
 - Joia Adele Crear-Perry, M.D., F.A.C.O.G. – Founder and President, National Birth Equity Collaborative
 - Taraneh Shirazian, M.D. – President and Medical Director, Saving Mothers; Assistant Professor at New York University Langone Medical Center
 - Mauricio Leone, M.P.A. – Chief Operating Officer and Senior Director, Obria Group
- V. Break: 12:15 – 12:25 p.m. EST

VI. Panel 3: Lived Experience: 12:25 – 1:25 p.m. EST

- Chanel Porchia-Albert – Board Member, March for Moms; Founder, Ancient SongDoula Services
- Nan Strauss – Managing Director, Policy, Advocacy & Grantmaking, Every Mother Counts
- Jennifer Jacoby – Federal Policy Counsel, U.S. Policy and Advocacy Program, Center for Reproductive Rights
- Nicolle L. Gonzales, B.S.N., R.N., M.S.N., C.N.M. – Executive Director and Founder, Changing Women Initiative

VII. Closing Remarks: 1:25 – 1:30 p.m. EST

- Catherine E. Lhamon, Chair, U.S. Commission on Civil Rights

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Hearing will be livestreamed on the [USCCR YouTube Channel here](#).

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The U.S. Commission on Civil Rights is the only independent, bipartisan agency charged with advising the President and Congress on civil rights and reporting annually on federal civil rights enforcement. Our 51 state Advisory Committees offer a broad perspective on civil rights concerns at state and local levels. For information about the Commission, please visit www.usccr.gov and follow us on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#).