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Raising Community Voices to Reduce Maternal Mortality

March 28, 2019

Featured Speakers

- Meaghan Carroll, M.S.Ed.
 - Health Program Administrator/Family Planning Program Manager, NYS Department of Health, Bureau of Women, Infant, and Adolescent Health
- Colette Sturgis, BS, IBCLC
 - Program Director, Maternal Infant Community Health Collaborative, Urban Health Plan Inc.
- Nina Rogers
 - Community Participant, New York State Listening Sessions

Conflict of Interest & Disclosure Statements

The planners and presenters do not have any financial arrangements or affiliations with any commercial entities whose products, research or services may be discussed in this activity.

No commercial funding has been accepted for this activity.

Learning Objectives

- Compare racial disparities and outcomes in maternal mortality in New York State;
- Recognize themes voiced by NYS women related to disparities in maternal health and health care to inform their practice; and
- Identify New York State initiatives, community approaches, and changes in clinical systems to address disparities in maternal health and health care.

Background

- Increasing rates of maternal mortality
 - U.S. maternal mortality rate **doubled** over the past two decades
 - NYS was ranked **30th in the nation** for maternal mortality in 2016
- Disproportionate impact among black women
 - Black women are over three times more likely to die than white women

Governor Cuomo's Comprehensive Initiative

- Create the Taskforce on Maternal Mortality
- Establish the Maternal Mortality Review Board
- Launch Best Practice Summit with Hospitals & OB-GYNs
- Pilot the Expansion of Medicaid Coverage for Doulas
- Support Centering Pregnancy Demonstrations
- Require Continuing Medical Ed. & Curriculum Development
- Expand NYS Perinatal Quality Collaborative
- **Launch Commissioner's Listening Sessions**

Listening Session Purpose

- Obtain community feedback
- Provide a platform for community members
- Better understand root causes



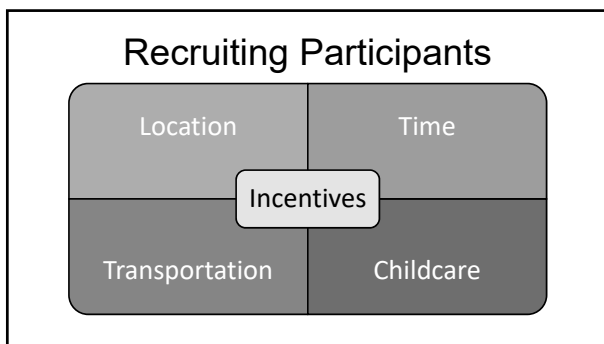
Bronx Listening Session

Colette Sturgis
Program Director, MICHHC



Planning Sessions

- Maternal & Infant Community Health Collaboratives (MICHHC)
- Announcement
- Workplan
- Weekly Prep Calls
- Collaborating with community partners



Conducting Listening Sessions

- MICHHC Welcome
- Commissioner Zucker Framing the Discussion
- Table Discussion
- Table Speak Back
- Commissioner Zucker Response & Closing



Debriefing Sessions

- What worked well
- What we would have done differently

Bronx Listening Session

- What we heard from **our community**
- What our participants got out of the experience
- How we plan to use this information

Community Input

Nina Rogers

Community Participant – Bronx
Session



Locations & Community Partners

Location	Date	MICHC Partner Org	Total Participants
Brooklyn	8/9/18	CAMBA & Wyckoff Heights Medical Center	27
Albany	8/13/18	Albany County Dept. of Health	29
Bronx	8/16/18	Urban Health Plan	39
Buffalo	8/21/18	Buffalo Prenatal/Perinatal Partnership	43
Queens	8/23/18	Public Health Solutions	43
Harlem	8/30/18	Northern Manhattan Perinatal Partnership	40
Syracuse	9/14/18	Onondaga County Dept. of Health & REACH CNY	37

Listening Session Themes

- Summary Analysis
 - Review of all transcribed notes
 - Identification of recurring themes/topics
- State-wide report
 - Local Community reports being developed



Health Systems

Hospitals	Payor	Systems
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• "They're trying to push for you to do other things that cost more money...They push the drugs on us like an experiment."• "I switched health plans to go to a better hospital, not 'the bad one.'"	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• "You are already labeled. You are already treated a certain way."• "Hospitals look at good insurance that makes them happy... they should think of us all as the same."	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• "I knew my prenatal appointments were going to be all day."• "Always saw a different doctor that didn't know me."

Providers

Communication	Judgement	Time
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Nobody would answer you.” • “I was never told why I was high risk.” • “I have yet to hear why <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I had • 6 C-sections.” 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Individually we all have our own stories... not all pregnancies are unplanned or don’t have a father around.” • “You have to show them you are somewhat educated.” 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “You never really see your doctors.” • “Appointments felt too quick.” • “Doctor listens because she has to write it down, but she doesn’t really listen.”

Racism

Unequal Treatment	Bias	Rights
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • After having the baby, “... nurse came in at 3 a.m. asking what family planning method she wants to use... just because she’s Black or Latina they want to make sure we stop having babies.” • “Always want to induce black women.” 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “They look at your skin color and your pocket and judge you based on that.” • “We’re high risk because we’re black.” • “Receptionist puts single on the form, automatic assumption because you’re black.” • “Black doctors understand us because they are us.” 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Women of color are tired of feeling like we have to fight for rights that should just be given to us.” • “You gave your rights away when you walked in.”

Information & Education

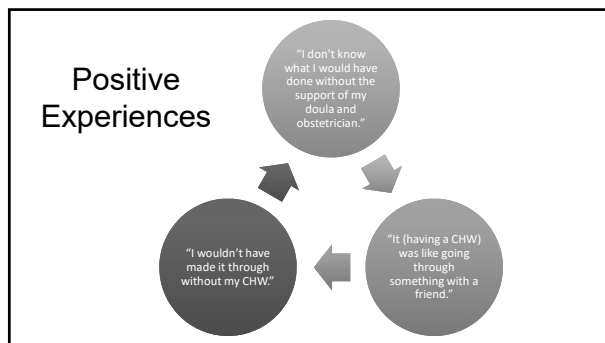
Lack from Providers	Classes	Self-Taught
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “You have to make a plan yourself because they don’t tell you.” • “Continually fighting to prove that you can understand.” 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “NFP helped me understand how to care for my baby.” • “If I can get it [free birthing classes] on 86th St. I should also be able to get it on 116th St.” 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “.. Most of the information came from apps.” • “... you’re just on your own.” • “...internet is your best friend.”

Disrespect

With Providers	Sensitivity	In Practice
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "People are giving respect based on insurance status, it affects treatment by providers." • "I know my body, don't question me." • "I feel like they brushed my concerns off..." 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "At the end of the day, we're people first." • "Treat me like you treat your mother." • "Caring doctors are a must." 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "Speak to young mothers. Do not speak around them." • "You have the right to be spoken to." • "Pulling to get respect." • "Doctors don't respect us because they don't value us."

Social Supports

Postpartum	Community	Advocates
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "Doctor's should talk more about postpartum depression." • "When I had my kids I didn't have no help. Family dropped me off and left me." 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "We used to have a village and today its gone." • "Moms need support bottom line." • "I needed support from my community." 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "Men need support services, they also are going through something." • "My CHW helped me while my baby was in the NICU and kept me pumping for him."



Participant Proposed Solutions

- Social Support
- More postpartum support:
 - Doctors follow up before six week postpartum visit
 - Mom & Baby postpartum visit
- Birthing/Parenting Classes

Participant Proposed Solutions

- More Community Services/Resources
- Changes in provider relationships
 - More Black and Hispanic providers
 - Understanding of disparities
 - Hours of operation – open nights/weekends

Next Steps

- 2019 Executive Budget
- Maternal Mortality Task Force Recommendations
- Community Listening Session Reports
 - Local Reports
- DFH Procurements/Planning

Thank You



GNYHA
New York State Taskforce on
Maternal Mortality and Disparate Racial Outcomes




HANYYS
Always There for Healthcare




ACOG
The American College of
Obstetricians and Gynecologists

Resources

- **Gov. Cuomo's Maternal Mortality Announcement**
– <https://www.governor.ny.gov/news/governor-cuomo-announces-comprehensive-initiative-target-maternal-mortality-and-reduce-racial>
- **Maternal Mortality Task Force**
– https://www.health.ny.gov/community/adults/women/task_force_maternal_mortality/
- **Maternal Mortality Task Force Report**
– https://www.governor.ny.gov/sites/governor.ny.gov/files/atoms/files/maternal_mortality_Mar12.pdf
- **NYS Perinatal Quality Collaborative**
– https://www.albany.edu/sph/cphce/mch_nyspqc.shtml



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APR 18 ADULT IMMUNIZATIONS	MAY 16 CLIMATE SMART COMMUNITIES	phlive.org <i>Celebrating 20 years of exemplary education for the public health workforce 1999-2019</i>
JUNE 20 TOBACCO & DISABILITY	AUG 1 BREASTFEEDING GRAND ROUNDS	

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