



# WELL WOMAN-BLACK MATERNAL HEALTH

## Meeting Minutes

**Date:** December 17, 2025, 11:00 AM – 12:00 PM. Virtual Zoom and Anchor Site DPH

**Name of Note Taker:** Akiba Daniels, Marci Eads

**Facilitator:** Mona Liza Hamlin and Tiffany Chalk

**Member Attendees:** Mona Liza Hamlin, Tiffany Chalk, Bridget Buckaloo, Erin Ridout, Meena Ramakrishnan, Kiera McGillivray, Kori Mabric, Cynthia Guy, Sharonetta Miner, George Yocher, Ida Lewis, Shebra Hall

**DPH Attendees:** Leah Jones, Chelsea Manwiller

**Summary:** The Well Women Black Maternal Health Meeting began with introductions and agenda review, followed by a roll call to confirm all participants' attendance. The committee reviewed previous meeting minutes, established virtual meeting ground rules, and discussed updates on the HerStory 2.0 project, including potential participants and campaign collaborations. The group also addressed plans for a resource directory, discussed upcoming events and activities for Black Maternal Health Week and Breastfeeding Month, and confirmed meeting dates for 2026.

Agenda Item	Notes
Call to Order, Roll Call, and Approval of Minutes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Tiffany motioned to approve the minutes and Bridget Buckaloo second approval</li><li>•</li></ul>
Ground Rules	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Mona Liza reviewed the ground rules and asked the committee if any members had feedback or additions. Members agreed to the ground rules.</li></ul>
Share out on Her Story 2.0 Workgroup (Tiffany)	<p>The committee discussed the "Her Story 2.0" initiative, a platform to elevate women's voices and address perinatal discrimination, particularly for Black women and those with SUD. Tiffany Chalk, co-chair, presented the project's goals, which include raising awareness about perinatal discrimination, educating on the 4<sup>th</sup> trimester and postpartum visits, and empowering women to advocate for their health. Tiffany provided updates on the HerStory 2.0 project, discussing proposed topics and potential testimonial participants for videos on care coordination in the fourth trimester, perinatal mood disorders, disparities in Black maternal health, and safe sleep practices. The committee is seeking additional participants for various topics, including healthcare providers, fathers, and partners, and is exploring collaborations with Dr. Julius Mullen and Dr. Leah McCall.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The workgroup met a month ago to discuss proposed topics and next steps for Her Story 2.0</li></ul>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• They can do up to 10 testimonial videos and looking to explore care coordination for 4<sup>th</sup> trimester, perinatal mood disorders, disparities in Black maternal health (a goal and priority)</li><li>• Bridget proposed involving Bene Johnson, a neonatal nurse practitioner, in the Safe Sleep campaign, and Tiffany approved this suggestion. The committee discussed their timeline for a project, aiming to finalize participant lists and conduct pre-interviews by January 2026. Mona Liza Hamlin highlighted the importance of the fourth trimester and suggested using resources from UNC to disseminate information and provide wraparound services. The committee agreed to review these resources and consider how they could be integrated into their community efforts.</li></ul>
Continued 4 <sup>th</sup> Trimester Data (Mona)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Mona mentioned they have been able to get funding for some of the work this committee focuses on. They were able to differ to groups to take the lead on the work and as a committee, there is an opportunity to reestablish what the strategies will be for the upcoming calendar yet.</li><li>• One of the major topics that came up during the initial strategic discussions was the 4<sup>th</sup> Trimester. There are many hospitals and other clinical entities and community supporters aiming to provide wraparound services during the 4<sup>th</sup> trimester.</li><li>• Discussion: what does it look like for the committee to support this work?</li><li>• <a href="https://newmomhealth.com/resources/?_resource_audience=care-teams">https://newmomhealth.com/resources/?_resource_audience=care-teams</a></li><li>• Leah Jones mentioned another resource of interest: <a href="https://mdmomresources.org/">https://mdmomresources.org/</a></li><li>• Leah discussed the development of a resource directory, exploring options like Maryland's resource map and a potential landing page with tools and resources. She mentioned carryover grant funds and a vendor collaboration, expressing excitement to gather feedback from the group on building and maintaining the directory. Leah emphasized the importance of making the resource easily searchable, using a structured intake form, and leveraging existing home visiting infrastructure, while acknowledging budget constraints.</li></ul>
Resource List (Mona)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Mona discussed the updated resource list and shared the excel file on screen. Members should review the resource list and suggest edits if organizations and websites are missing.</li><li>• Meena requested to set this up as a google sheet so it is easier for members to edit. Akiba will format this excel into a live version to share with the group.</li><li>• Bridget loves this list but feels it would be helpful to use the Maryland resource map categories and attach those categories to this excel sheet. We should categorize the listings so people know what services each organization offers and the categories it falls in. It would also be interesting to do a crosswalk of DE Thrives in terms of resources and how they categorize services as well. She also suggested the group consider the checklist on the UNC website and compare that with what we are promoting. We could create a QR code for the resource list/ landing page/ resource map to help with discharge planning at the hospital level.</li><li>• Meena questioned if one of the DPH colleagues could speak to the process for keeping the 211 resources updated and if there are resources on that site we</li></ul>



	<p>could link to (to keep the directory up to date). Leah responded that the directory is only as good as how often you update it. They have a relationship with 211 and United Way and have set up an information and referral phone line to support providers and families and children birth to age 8. Their resource directory is updated by partners and is a lot of work on an annual basis. They typically send out a document or 1-pager to the partners and they all have to update contact information, website, social media accounts, etc. The partners have to take the time to fill this out and send it back in, which can be challenging.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Shebra mentioned we could make this more user friendly. There could be a way to categorize things so families can find everything they need. We could add a description for each organization. Akiba can add columns for organization description</li><li>• Mona shared the Maryland Map as an example of how we could organize our landing page.</li><li>• The group should take a look at the link for the 4<sup>th</sup> trimester and cross compare what is provided on DE Thrives and provide suggested additions and opportunities to improve.</li></ul>
Opportunities for Committee Engagement	<p>Mona provided an update of what is to come and the focus on 2026, including goals by quarter for the next year.</p> <p>Q1 goals:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1) Publish resource list</li><li>2) Complete Her Story 2.0 project</li></ol> <p>Q2 goals:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1) Black Maternal health Week April 11 -17</li><li>2) Other ideas</li></ol> <p>Q3 goals:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1) August Breastfeeding Month</li></ol> <p>The committee aims to meet prior to the DHMIC Meeting. Our 2026 meeting dates include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Thursday, March 5th from 11 am – noon</li><li>• Wednesday, June 3rd from 11 am – noon</li><li>• Wednesday, September 16th from 11 am – noon</li><li>• Wednesday, November 4th from 11 am – noon</li></ul> <p>Akiba will send the meeting invites to the group for all 2026 meeting dates.</p>
Round robin on upcoming events and how to support one another	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Meena kicked off the round robin portion of the meeting and shared there will be a DE journal of Public Health article released soon that will contain mortality data. This article can be shared with the group once published.</li><li>• Mona mentioned we have the Maternal Health Awareness Day on Jan. 23<sup>rd</sup> hosted by Medical Society of Delaware (invite went out via email).</li></ul>



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Public Comment Period	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Shebra Hall shared she is trying to work more in the maternal and child health space and it has been difficult to do this. She will work with the groups and organizations/ programs who work with moms and families.</li></ul>
Next Steps and Closing Remarks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Bridget: Reach out to Bene Johnson (neonatal nurse practitioner) to connect her as a potential participant for the safe sleep testimonial video in HerStory 2.0.</li><li>• All committee members: Review the proposed HerStory 2.0 testimonial topics and email Mona and Tiffany if you have suggestions for additional participants.</li><li>• All committee members: Review the UNC fourth trimester resource link and consider what would be useful for Delaware's community/clinicians/consumers; send suggestions to Mona and Tiffany.</li><li>• All committee members: Review the Excel/Google Form resource list, ensure your organization is listed with correct description, add missing organizations, and send updates to Mona, Tiffany, and Akiba.</li><li>• Akiba: Convert the Excel resource list to a Google Form for collaborative updates.</li><li>• All committee members: Review the Maryland Mom Map as an example and consider what categories/resources are missing for Delaware; provide feedback.</li><li>• Meena: Send the 10-year maternal mortality retrospective article to Akiba or Marci for distribution to the group once published.</li><li>• All committee members: Begin planning for Black Maternal Health Week (April 11-17) events and coordinate with co-chairs on activities/support.</li><li>• All committee members: Look out for and register for Maternal Health Awareness Day on January 23rd (hosted by Medical Society of Delaware).</li><li>• All committee members: Consider participation in any subcommittees/task forces that may be formed for resource list or other initiatives, and attend relevant scheduling/convening meetings if interested.</li></ul>
Adjournment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Meeting adjourned at 11:58 AM</li></ul>

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