

Access to Equity in Midwifery Education & Care

As the demand for midwifery continues to expand, the profession of midwifery needs to reflect the same level of diversity that exists among the people in midwives' care. To address disparities in healthy outcomes and structural racism, ACNM has partnered with Johnson & Johnson "Our Race to Health Equity" to develop the Access to Equity in Midwifery Education and Care Program.

1 80% of maternal deaths are preventable. What can we do?

Black women die at 2.9 times the rate of white women with a maternal mortality rate of 43 deaths per 100,000 live births. (Hoyert, 2022. CDC, 2022) This is an increase from previous years. These differences persist even among women with higher education. (Petersen et al., 2019)

3 TO 1

is the Maternal Mortality Rate for Black women compared to White women



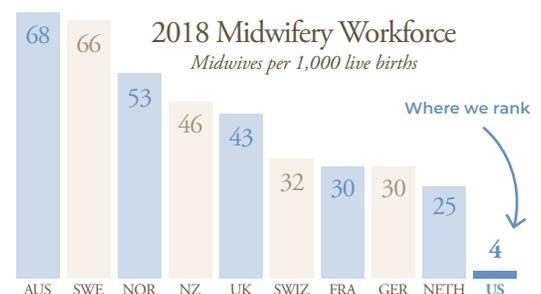
2 Midwives have good outcomes!

Research supports the positive outcomes of midwifery care: increased patient satisfaction, lower use of interventions, reduced cesarean births, decreased number of low birth weight and preterm infants, and more. (Homer et al., 2014)



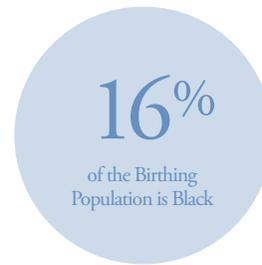
3 The problem is we don't have enough midwives.

The World Health Organization (WHO) recommends midwives as an evidence-based approach to reducing maternal mortality. (UNFPA, 2014)



4 We really don't have enough Black midwives.

16% of the birthing population is Black (CDC, 2020), in comparison to Black midwives making up just 7% of AMCB-certified midwives. (AMCB, 2021)



5 Growing the midwifery workforce may improve health & reduce disparities.

Having a midwifery workforce that reflects the community it serves can improve health equity and racial disparities. We also know that race concordant care improves communication and birth outcomes. (Greenwood et al., 2020)



6 Higher education in HBCUs is the way to go to build the midwifery workforce.

Midwifery programs at Historically Black Colleges and Universities can help black students learn, grow, and develop in an educational culture that supports, understands, and positively positions future midwives for sustainable success.



In summary, *Access to Equity in Midwifery Education and Care* supports HBCUs to develop midwifery education programs and improve recruitment, retention, and graduation of midwives of color.

Citations

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