



**Infant and Maternal Mortality Task Force Among African Americans (IMMT)  
Systems Subcommittee  
Monday, October 12, 2020  
12pm-1pm (cst)**

**Meeting Minutes**

**Present**

Ann Border  
Paula Brody  
Glendean Burton  
Jessica Davenport-Williams  
Arden Handler  
Catherine Harth  
Daniel Johnson

Jessica Lamberson  
Bakahia Madison  
Cindy Mitchell  
Angelique Muhammad  
Timika Anderson Reeves  
Cynthia Wilson

***Virtual Meeting to occur via Cisco WebEx***

Video Conference:

Meeting number: 133 672 5846

Password: hnKZHeNG385

<https://illinois.webex.com/illinois/j.php?MTID=m50688c77bdfd1222eb0fd7f25819d2e4>

Join by Phone:

Telephone: (312) 535-8110 United States Toll (Chicago) // (415) 655-0002 US Toll

Event Number (access code): 133 672 5846

**Call to Order**

The subcommittee meeting began at 12:04 pm. Roll was taken and the agenda approved.

**Public Comments**

There were no public comments.

**Approval of Minutes**

Minutes from the September 25, 2020 meeting were approved. Timika Anderson Reeves motioned to approved and Catherine Harth seconded.

**Discussion for Annual Report**

The group reviewed the Task Force Chair's request for information from each subcommittee by October 31<sup>st</sup>. The Chair asked for the following:

- Summary of what the subcommittee has done thus far
- One – two key strategies supported by literature and other observations made. Strategies should be generated from a health equity lens and focus on African American women.
- Summary of subcommittee's plans to implement strategy and specify the specific activities the subcommittee will focus on for next 2021.
- Any suggestions/recommendations regarding the infrastructure for the subcommittee and/or overall taskforce to be successful.

Jessica Lamberson indicated that she has already started reviewing the meeting minutes and drafting a summary of the subcommittees activities to date.

### **Workgroup Discussions and Recommendations**

#### Voting on Strategies and Activities

The group began to discuss some of their key concerns:

Education – provider education (equity though out the state by ensuring that providers have the same level of competency and need for enforcement)

Education – patient awareness of maternal health issues and the importance of early prenatal care. Also, the importance of women knowing what services they should have and their options

Ann Borders offered to present on ILPQC's Birth Equity toolkit at a future meeting. She also indicated that she will send out some additional information that may be helpful to the group as it identifies it strategies going forward.

Next, the group posed its tops concerns.

- Reimbursing the services of navigators, doulas, community health workers (with the exclusion of lay midwives) and the unbundling of the 2-week postpartum visit from labor and delivery.
- Using patient data collected from JACO and patient satisfaction surveys broken down by race/ethnicity to drive equity and quality dashboards.
- Expanding acceptability of telehealth for reimbursement and making sure everyone has access.
- Enhancing the Birth Equity Initiative to go beyond current focus of hospitals to outpatient settings such as FQHCs.
- Reducing barriers to access of contraception of choice and allowing access through breast and healthcare.

Engaging MCO's was also raised as an important concern. One member said it is important to tie in reimbursement to the recommendations because it will drive providers' behavior to participate.

#### **Next Steps**

Kenya will type up the various concerns and include items mentioned in the small work groups. She will send out the final list to the group to rank based on importance. Once she receives the responses from the group, the final ranking will be used to put forth strategies for the annual report.

The group agreed that they should meet briefly prior to October 30<sup>th</sup>.

**Adjournment**

With nothing further to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 1:10 pm.