

DADvocates



Improving Black Maternal Health through Father-Inclusive Perinatal Care

PA Maternal Health Collaborative

November 7, 2025

12:30-2pm



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Eliminating Health Disparities



MISSION

Patients R Waiting (PRW) believes that part of our commitment to eliminating health disparities also includes increasing access to healthcare that improves health outcomes.

- Eliminating health disparities by increasing diversity in medicine.
- Increasing the pipeline of minority clinicians.
- Making the pipeline of minority clinicians less leaky.
- Supporting minority clinicians in practice.

2

MATERNAL HEALTH CRISIS

Patients R Waiting is addressing the maternal mortality crisis by providing birthing people of color with Doula support. Through the ***Diversifying Doulas Initiative®***, we place birthing people of color with experienced Doulas, fully subsidized.

Benefits can include reduction in anxiety, lower C-section rates, and much more.

The health disparity experienced by people of color during childbirth was heightened by COVID-19.
Doulas can help meet emotional support needs by providing care and education.

3



Diversifying Doulas Initiative®

TRAINING*

SERVICES*

RESEARCH

COMMUNITY

*Serving Pennsylvania: Dauphin, Lancaster, York, & Berks Counties
Training: Next Info Session 1/14/26 @ 6pm

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DIVERSIFYING DOULAS INITIATIVE[®]



Patients
Waiting



The Healthy People 2030
national target for C-
section rates is **23.6%**



74% of our patients deliver **vaginally**



25.3% of our patients deliver by **C-section**



65.2% of our patients
breastfeed, which is **22.8%
higher** than the national
target



10.1% of our patients have **pre-term deliveries**

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RESEARCH



Population:

Black men

Purpose:

Explore the experiences and needs of
Black men as they support birthing
people in their lives during perinatal
care.

Develop:

Daddy Doula Cohort (2026)
Educational Materials
Policy Recommendations

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FAMILY CENTERED PERINATAL CARE

Black women experience maternal morbidity at a rate nearly 3 times that of White women

Including Black fathers as partners in perinatal care throughout prenatal, labor, and postpartum experiences improves:

**Maternal Mental Health
&
Birth Outcomes**



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THANK YOU

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**Patients
RWaiting**



DADVOCATES LISTENING SESSION #2

Let your voice be heard

PURPOSE:

To better understand what Black men go through and how they feel while supporting the people in their lives during pregnancy and childbirth.

Why Participate?

- 1 Make a Difference:** What you share will help create trainings and solutions that support Black families.
- 2 Work Together:** Meet and share ideas with people and experts who care about the same things you do.
- 3 Speak Up:** What you think will help guide decisions that affect you and your community.

You will be compensated \$50 for your time.

**Join us Saturday,
November 8th
2025**

1:00pm - 3:00pm

**Hamilton Health
Center
110 S 17th St
Harrisburg, PA
17104**

Scan QR
to register



bit.ly/dadvocates2

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