

TASK FORCE ON MATERNAL HEALTH
MEETING SEVEN SUMMARY
March 26, 2021
1:00 pm – 4:00 pm
Virtual Meeting Conducted Over Zoom

Attendees:

Alan Skipper, Alison Miller, Amanda Brickhouse Murphy, Amelia Gibson, Ami Goldstein
Amy Jo, Arthur Ollendorff, Ashley Rodriguez, Ashley Stewart, Becky Moore-Patterson, Belinda Pettiford
Brittney Sala, Brushell Solorzano, Carolyn Harraway-Smith, Chris Westveer, Cornell Wright, Daniel
Frayne, Donna Moses, Doris Robinson, Ebony Tate, Ellen Chetwynd, Emily Hooks, Erin McClain, James
Coleman, Janalynn Beste, Janice Freedman, Jennifer Grady, Jessica Noble, Joan East, Julie Lovingood,
Kate Menard, Kathleen Jones-Vessey, Kathleen Knocke, Kathy Colville, Katie Borders, Kella Hatcher,
Kimberly Harper, Kristin Resnik, LaToshia Rouse, Lindsay Guge, Lugenia Grider, Maria Small, Mary Anne
Burghardt, Mary Kimmel, Melissa Godwin, Michelle Bucknor, Michelle Ries, Missy Burrell, Nick Pearson,
Nicole McKinney, Rachel Urrutia, Sarah McCracken, Sarah Muthler, Sarah Verbiest, Sarah Wheeler,
Shelby Weeks, Sherika HiSmith, Stacy Warren, Ste'Keira Shepperson, Susan Robinson, Suzanne Dixon,
Tara Shuler, Thalia Rivero, Tina Feir, Tina Sherman, Tish Singletary, Tomeka Isaac, TyAnna Neale, Tyonna
Howard, Ushma Mehta, Velma Taormina, Veronica Piper, Walidah Karim

Welcome

James Coleman, MPH, Research Specialist, North Carolina Institute of Medicine

Mr. Coleman thanked task members for joining. On behalf of the steering committee, Dr. Velma Taormina thanked the task force and provided an overview of the agenda.

Persons with lived experience: Jace's Journey

Tomeka Isaac, Co-Founder & Executive Director, Jace's Journey Inc.

Ms. Isaac shared her story around her prenatal care experience, the loss of her son, and her numerous postpartum surgeries and extensive hospitalization. Her experience led her to co-found (with her husband) Jace's Journey. Jace's Journey's goal is to communicate, educate, and advocate. The organization accomplishes this through doula supported births, doula scholarships, Facebooks live interviews, community baby showers, wellness fairs, and community outreach.

Birth Journeys Project Overview and Findings

Associate Professor, UNC-Chapel Hill School of Information and Library Science, Carolina Health Informatics Program and Director of Community Equity, Data and Information Lab at UNC-Chapel Hill

North Carolina Pregnancy & Birth Journeys are in depth stories and qualitative data from 223 pregnant and birthing parents around North Carolina that were collected via a self-administered interview. Themes that emerged were location and insurance barriers for choosing a provider of their choice; negative experiences due to COVID-19 restrictions; motivations for and barriers to attending appointments; reasons for distrusting and trusting providers; and telehealth experiences. Some respondents also expressed negative experiences around discrimination, lack of mental health and lactation support, and disrespectful care.

Overview of Hospital Maternal Safety Guidelines and Bundles

Arthur Ollendorff, Maternal Project Lead, Perinatal Quality Collaborative of North Carolina

PQCNC has the shared vision of protecting moms and babies and was created in 2008 as a statewide collaborative in which hospitals voluntarily participate. The work is mainly done by local Perinatal Quality Improvement Teams (PQIT) which have patients and families as their focus. Alliance for Innovation on Maternal Health (AIM) core patient safety bundles are small, straightforward evidence-based practices that when performed collectively and reliably have been proven to improve patient outcomes; these are a good tool to ensure equitable care. AIM bundles have been implemented across the state for hypertension/preeclampsia, obstetric hemorrhage, reduction of primary C-section rates, and are now being implemented for obstetric care for women with opioid use disorder.

Small Group Discussion: Review Draft Task Force Recommendations

Facilitated by the Maternal Health Task Force Steering Committee and NCIOM staff

Next Steps

James Coleman, MPH, Research Specialist, North Carolina Institute of Medicine

Mr. Coleman thanked task force members for attending the meeting and reminded them of the next meeting date on Monday, May 17 from 1:00 – 4:00 PM.