

**OMH State Partnership Initiative to Improve Minority Health
Roles and Responsibilities
April 2017**

Project Title: Addressing Infant Mortality among U.S.-born African Americans and Developing a Health Profile on African American Mothers and their Infants Living in Hennepin County Using a Health Equity Analysis

Project Goals

1. Strengthen the capacity of the US-born African American community to change and conditions under which babies are born to maximize their opportunity for a healthy start
2. Enable the U.S. born African American community to advance a health equity narrative that includes all of the factors of social determinants of health (SDOH) that contribute to infant mortality among African Americans in Minnesota
3. Ensure that women and babies are healthy and disparities in infant mortality among U.S. born African Americans in Hennepin County are eliminated

Lead	Organization	Responsibilities	Period
Sara Chute, Acting Director	MDH Center for Health Equity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide overall guidance and direction • Support project coordinator • Support the work of CVAS and other community groups focused on African American health to create systemic change that will lead to reduction infant mortality disparities among the African American community in Minnesota 	Sept 2016 – July 2020
Helen Jackson locket-El, Projector Coordinator	MDH Center for Health Equity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide overall management of the grant • Lead , plan and facilitate project meetings • Recruit CVAS members • Recruit participants for community co-learning sessions • Recruit community members for focus groups • Plan and coordinate co-learning sessions • Serve as liaison to the project and community partners • Develop and execute annual plans and contracts • Oversee all project financials • Participate in relevant work groups related to infant mortality 	Sept 2016 – July 2020

Lead	Organization	Responsibilities	Period
Xiaoying Chen, Community Engagement	MDH Center for Health Equity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide support to the project coordinator on community engagement activities • Assist in the recruitment of CVAS members and community co-learning participants • Assist in the work of CVAS • Assist in planning and implementing the community co-learning sessions 	Sept 2016 – July 2020
Mia Robillos, Evaluation and Reporting	MDH Center for Health Equity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide technical assistance on infant mortality data • Develop the health disparity profiles • Develop data collection tools and protocols • Prepare reports (progress, annual, and evaluation) and submit other information required by the Office of Minority Health • Analyze qualitative and quantitative data collected for the project 	Sept 2016 – July 2020
Dorothy Bliss	MDH Center for Public Health Practice- Community Engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide technical assistance and support for HE narrative training • Serve as a resource for the development and implementation of the new health equity narrative around infant mortality 	Sept 2016 – July 2017
Primary contacts: Clara Sharp and Char Lankford (Co-Chairs)	Community Voices and Solution (CVAS)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commit to attending regular meetings and following through on action items as needed • Provide input into the planning and implementation of various project activities • Review infant mortality recommendations from the Maternal and Child Health Section and other health equity materials as needed • Assist in recruiting community members to participate in co-learning sessions and focus groups • Assist in the development of the curricula and selection of speakers or contractors as needed for the co-learning sessions • Develop interventions and strategies for implementing the relevant recommendations in the MDH statewide Infant Mortality Reduction Plan for the U.S. born African American population in Hennepin County • Provide guidance to co-learning participants in the development of action plans for, and implementation of, their mini projects • Assist in the development of data collection tools and methods 	October 2016 – July 2020

Lead	Organization	Responsibilities	Period
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review the project work plan, and evaluation plan, logic model and theory of change, and provide suggestions for improvement so that the documents are aligned with the goals of the project Participate in the evaluation of the project 	
Primary contact: Michelle Chiezah	MDH Maternal & Child Health Section	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide data for infant mortality that will be used in developing the health disparity profiles and in community co-learning sessions Update project staff and other partners regarding developments around the implementation of Minnesota’s infant mortality reduction plan and other infant mortality initiatives around the state Provide input into the development of strategies/interventions to implement the recommendations in the state’s Infant Mortality Reduction Plan that are relevant to the project Support CVAS and other community partners in creating systemic change that will lead to a reduction in infant mortality disparities Attend community co-learning sessions, as available 	Sept 2016 – July 2020
Primary contact: Kristen Tharaldson	Minneapolis Healthy Start Community Action Network (CAN)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assist in the development of curricula and identification of guest speakers in the community co-learning sessions Attend CVAS meetings Work with CVAS to strengthen community partnerships Provide input into the development of develop strategies/interventions to implement the recommendations in the state’s Infant Mortality Reduction plan that are relevant to the project 	Sept 2016 – July 2020
Primary contact: Laura Lipkin	Minnesota Association of Community Health Centers (MNACHC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Facilitate the project’s work with selected community health centers in Hennepin County, including Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs), that predominantly serve the African American community, namely in the development of a prenatal screening tool that incorporates social determinants of health factors, and in the selection of a sample of U.S. born African American women seeking prenatal care who will complete baseline and follow-up surveys Provide the project with general descriptive data on US-born African Americans women who uses services at the selected clinics 	Sept 2016 – July 2020

Lead	Organization	Responsibilities	Period
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide input into the development of strategies/interventions for implementing recommendations in the statewide Infant Mortality Reduction Plan relevant to the project 	
Primary contact: Joan Cleary	Community Health Workers (CHW) Alliance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assist in introducing/developing an infant mortality module into CHW training curricula in Minnesota • Engage the CHW Alliance in the development of a prenatal screening tool that incorporates pregnant women’s overall living conditions and needs 	Sept 2016 – July 2020
TBD	Co-learning Participants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attend 3 co-learning sessions to learn about African American infant mortality issues and the systems and policies that impact infant mortality • Attend 2 sessions on identifying strategies/interventions for implementing the recommendations in the statewide Infant Mortality Reduction Plan relevant to the project, and selecting a strategy/intervention to implement • Attend 2 follow-up sessions to create an action plan around their chosen strategy/intervention to create change around policies and systems that impact African American infant mortality • Work with their cohort to implement the action plan • Attend meeting to share updates on chosen strategy/intervention • Attend a public meeting to share successes, challenges and lessons learned in implementing the action plan 	May 2017-July 2020