Exposing Contributors to Black Maternal Health Experiences in Prince George’s County, Maryland

Team Black Mamas Matter: Isabella Battish, Aden Eskinder, Stephanie Fishkin, Madison Harris, Tam Nguyen, Alexis Nnabue, Christal Onyekwere, Esohe Owie, and Sidney Redwood

Faculty Advisor: Dr. Sylvette La Touche-Howard

1 University of Maryland, Gemstone Honors Program
2 University of Maryland, School of Public Health

In the United States, Black women have a maternal mortality rate three times that of white women, a trend reflected in Prince George’s County, MD, one of the wealthiest majority-Black counties in the country. Implicit bias among health providers has been found to exacerbate these disparities. Medical schools lack standardized cultural humility and implicit bias training, despite demands from students and providers.

This project seeks to understand how access to healthcare and medical school curricula contribute to maternal health disparities and how medical school curricula can be strengthened to improve Black maternal health outcomes.

Methodology

- Surveys and qualitative interviews
- Recruiting in public spaces (e.g., grocery stores, libraries) and in healthcare settings (e.g., teaching hospitals, clinics)
- Inclusion criteria:
  - Black mothers ages 25-34 in Prince George’s County, Maryland
  - OB-GYNs and medical students in the DMV area
  - Interested participants to be entered into raffle to win $25!


College Park, MD

Infant mortality rates are highest in District Heights and Suitland (dark blue), Areas in gray, including College Park, experience <10 deaths/1,000 live births. Adapted from Prince George’s County Health Department, 2019.

To learn more about our research or check your eligibility to participate, please scan this QR code!

https://linktr.ee/gemsteambmm
IRB package #2078743

Selected References


https://doi.org/10.1542/hpeds.2017-0110

Acknowledgements

We would like to thank Dr. La Touche-Howard; the UMD School of Public Health; Dr. Ndidiamaka N. Amutah-Onukagha and the MOTHER Lab at Tufts University School of Medicine; UM Capital Region Medical Center; Ms. Emily Cranwell Deinert and the UMD Libraries; and the UMD Gemstone Honors Program for their continued support.