

Resolution



ORDER NO: 2023-0373

DATE: April 4, 2023

STATE OF TEXAS

COUNTY OF DALLAS

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BE IT REMEMBERED, at a regular meeting of the Commissioners Court of Dallas County, Texas, held on the 4th day of April, 2023, on a motion made by Commissioner Dr. Theresa M. Daniel, District 1, and seconded by Commissioner John Wiley Price, District 3 the following Resolution was adopted:

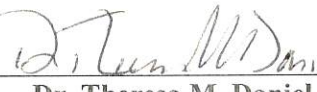
- WHEREAS**, Over 60% of pregnancy deaths are preventable, and according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Black women in the United States are 3 times more likely than White women to die from pregnancy-related causes; and
- WHEREAS**, Black women also are nearly twice as likely compared to White women to have a birth with late or no prenatal care compared to White women. The high rates of maternal mortality among Black women span across income levels, education levels, socioeconomic status, access to prenatal care, general overall health, mental health and substance use disorder status; and
- WHEREAS**, Dallas County recognizes that structural racism, gender oppression, and inequalities in the social determinants of health are embedded in many institutions and contribute to unacceptable and preventable disparities in Black maternal health outcomes; and
- WHEREAS**, The Family Wellness Council seeks to establish collaborative partnerships across North Texas, engaging multiple sectors, focusing on health equity, improvement in maternal and infant health for Black caregivers and provide high quality support to both families and providers; and
- WHEREAS**, Black Maternal Health Week is a week-long campaign to acknowledge and build awareness of the tragic deaths of Black women in our state and across the country who lost their lives to pregnancy related complications and to raise awareness of the state's preventable and unacceptable disparities in Black maternal health outcomes; and
- WHEREAS**, Black Maternal Health Week is also a time to stand in solidarity, recognizing that this issue impacts Black mothers, Indigenous mothers, and other mothers of color, as well as trans people, gender expansive people, families, communities, and practitioners, who all experience the weight of systemic bias. It is our job to uplift community-based responses to addressing this crisis and to promote initiatives to reduce Black maternal morbidity and mortality; and
- WHEREAS**, The Help Me Grow North Texas Health Initiatives workgroup seeks to reduce health disparities in our communities through agency partnerships and culturally informed practices. We affirm the need to improve our maternal care systems and invest in improving Black maternal health outcomes, as well as the need to acknowledge the historical and systemic exploitation of Black persons within the medical field and to encourage practitioners to listen to and believe Black women seeking medical care.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that we, the Commissioners Court of Dallas County do hereby proclaim April 11-17, 2023, Black Maternal Health Week, and additionally,

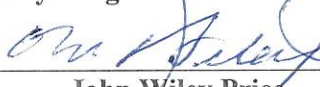
THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we, the Commissioners Court of Dallas County, together with the Family Wellness Council call upon all citizens, legislators, other elected officials, community agencies, religious organizations, medical facilities, schools and businesses to increase their participation in efforts to improve maternal and child outcomes, and advocate for the advancement of health equity through collaborative investments, thereby strengthening and improving the long-term outcomes necessary for families to thrive.

DONE IN OPEN COURT, this the 4th day of April 2023


Clay Lewis Jenkins
County Judge


Dr. Theresa M. Daniel
Commissioner, District 1


Andrew Sommerman
Commissioner, District 2


John Wiley Price
Commissioner, District 3


Dr. Elba Garcia
Commissioner, District 4