Resolution

ORDER NO. 2026-0379

DATE: April 7, 2026

STATE OF TEXAS §

COUNTY OF DALLAS §

BE IT REMEMBERED, at a regular meeting of the Commissioners Court of Dallas County, Texas, held on the 7th day of April,2026 on motion made by Dr. Theresa M. Daniel, Commissioner of District 1, and seconded by John Wiley Price, Commissioner of District 3, the following Resolution was adopted:

Black Maternal Health Week

WHEREAS, More than 80 percent of pregnancy-related deaths are preventable, yet Black women in the United States continue to experience profoundly disproportionate maternal outcomes; according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Black women are nearly three to four times more likely than white women to die from pregnancy-related causes; and

WHEREAS, In Dallas County, local public health data show Black infants are approximately three times more likely to die before their first birthday than white infants, and Black birthing people are significantly less likely than white counterparts to receive first-trimester prenatal care, underscoring profound racial disparities in maternal and infant health; and

WHEREAS, It is also a time to recognize that this crisis extends beyond Black mothers to impact Indigenous mothers and other mothers of color, as well as families and entire communities who bear the weight of systemic inequities in health care and social support systems; and

WHEREAS, Thanks to the collective commitment of community partners, grassroots community organizations, health providers, policy makers, nonprofit organizations, and in Dallas County and across Texas, meaningful progress is being achieved in advancing maternal health equity, including:

- Expanded access to culturally responsive prenatal and postpartum support services;
- Growth in community-based doula, midwifery, and perinatal workforce initiatives;
- Strengthened maternal quality improvement work across local systems of care;
- Better coordination of care for high-risk pregnancies;
- Increased awareness of implicit bias and its impact on health outcomes; and
- Enhanced data collection and transparency to inform future prevention strategies; and

WHEREAS, The Family Wellness Council Health Initiatives Workgroup continues to lead collaborative partnerships across North Texas—engaging healthcare providers, public health agencies, community-based organizations, faith leaders, educators, legislators, and families—to advance health equity, strengthen culturally responsive care, expand access to doulas and midwives, improve provider training, and support both families and frontline professionals; and

WHEREAS, These positive changes illustrate the power of collaboration, sustained community engagement, and shared vision across sectors—from faith communities and nonprofits to health care systems and local government—to create safer, more equitable pathways to birth and family wellbeing.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that we, the Dallas County Commissioners Court, do hereby proclaim **April 11-17, 2026, as Black Maternal Health Week** in Dallas County. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that we celebrate the progress made, honor the voices of those who continue to advocate for change, and reaffirm—through collaboration, compassion, and action—that the health and wellbeing of all mothers is a shared community priority and a moral imperative. Thank you, Black Mothers Matter Alliance, for spearheading this important week around the country.

DONE IN OPEN COURT this the 7th day of April 2026.

Clay Lewis Jenkins, County Judge

Dr. Theresa M. Daniel, District 1

Andrew Sommerman, District 2

John Wiley Price, District 3

Dr. Elba Garcia, District 4