



Agenda

Committee of the Whole Meeting

City of Kalamazoo

Monday, April 4, 2022

5:00 PM

City Commission Chambers – 241 West South Street

A. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

B. COMMUNICATIONS

C. PUBLIC COMMENTS

D. SPECIAL AGENDA ITEMS

E. COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

F. WORK SESSION

1. Cradle Kalamazoo Presentation
2. Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Update

Link to the DEI Assessment:

<https://www.kalamazoo-city.org/docman/equity/7925-the-city-of-kalamazoo-diversity-equity-and-inclusion-assessment/file>

G. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

H. ADJOURNMENT

cradle

K A L A M A Z O O

Overview

Komal Razvi, MPH
(She/Her)

Director of Community Health, YWCA Kalamazoo

Goals and Why Infant Mortality Matters

Goal: Reduce IMR to less than **3.0 per 1,000** live births by 2030 and create **zero disparities** in infant mortality rates.

- The death of a baby before their first birthday is called infant mortality.
- Cradle Kalamazoo believes that every child deserves a first birthday.
- Infant mortality affects all of us because this rate is often used as an indicator to measure the health and well-being of a community.



Racial Disparities in Infant Mortality

Babies of color are 3-4x more likely to die before their first birthday, even if higher income...

WHITE FAMILIES



5 deaths for every 1,000 births to low-income white families



3 deaths for every 1,000 births to higher-income white families

FAMILIES OF COLOR



15 deaths for every 1,000 births to low-income families of color



13 deaths for every 1,000 births to higher-income families of color



Cradle Kalamazoo & SDOH Framework

- Cradle's overall goal is to reduce infant mortality. Only **10-20% of health is impacted by clinical care** while 80-90% is impacted by the other social determinants of health. Interventions must focus on both of these areas.



Collective Impact Model: It Takes a Village!

- Ascension Borgess Health
- Bronson Healthcare
- ERACCE
- Elizabeth Upjohn Community Healing Center
- Family Health Center
- Goodwill Industries of Southwest Michigan
- Integrated Services of Kalamazoo (ISK)
- Interfaith Strategy for Advocacy and Action in the Community (ISAAC)
- Kalamazoo Community Foundation
- Kalamazoo County Health & Community Services
- Kalamazoo Promise
- KRESA
- NAACP – Metropolitan Kalamazoo Branch
- Northside Ministerial Alliance
- Planned Parenthood of Michigan
- Rootead Enrichment Center
- Twenty Hands
- United Healthcare Community Plan
- United Way of the Battle Creek and Kalamazoo Region
- Western Michigan University Department of Psychology
- Western Michigan University Homer Stryker M.D. School of Medicine
- YWCA Kalamazoo

22 Organizations, 26 Individual Programs

SDOH Representation

Community Services = 35%
Economic Development = 8%
Education = 15%
Health = 42%

Aligning Strategy with Cause

Problem

Black, Brown, and poor babies are dying at disproportionate rates in Kalamazoo County.

Causes

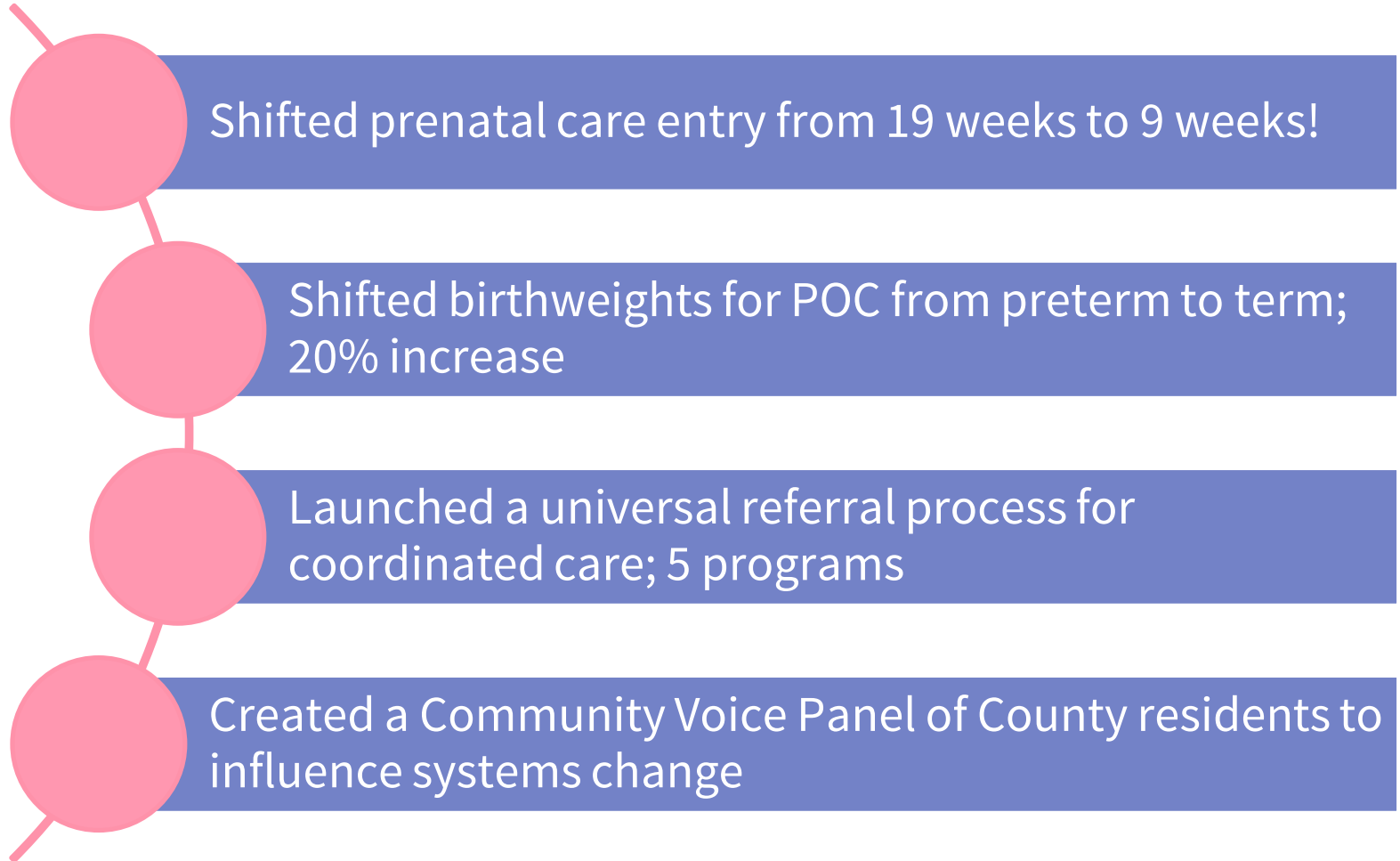
1. **Fragmented** systems of care
2. Stress resulting from **poverty, racism, and discrimination**
3. Lack of **opportunity & access**
4. **Inaccessible & culturally incompetent** health language

Strategic Objectives

1. Coordinating perinatal **home visitation network**
2. Incorporating **health equity** into clinical & social practices, policies, & structures
3. Providing **reproductive health education**
4. Providing **safe sleep education**
5. Advocacy & systems change through **public policy.**

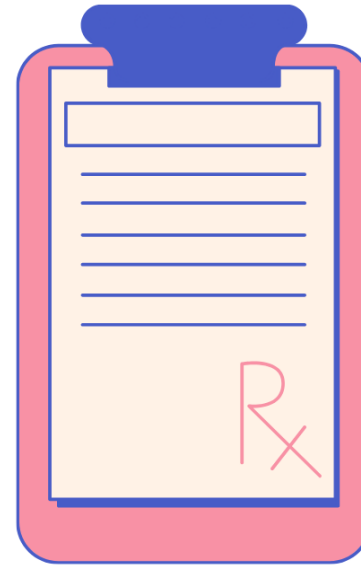


Cradle Accomplishment Examples



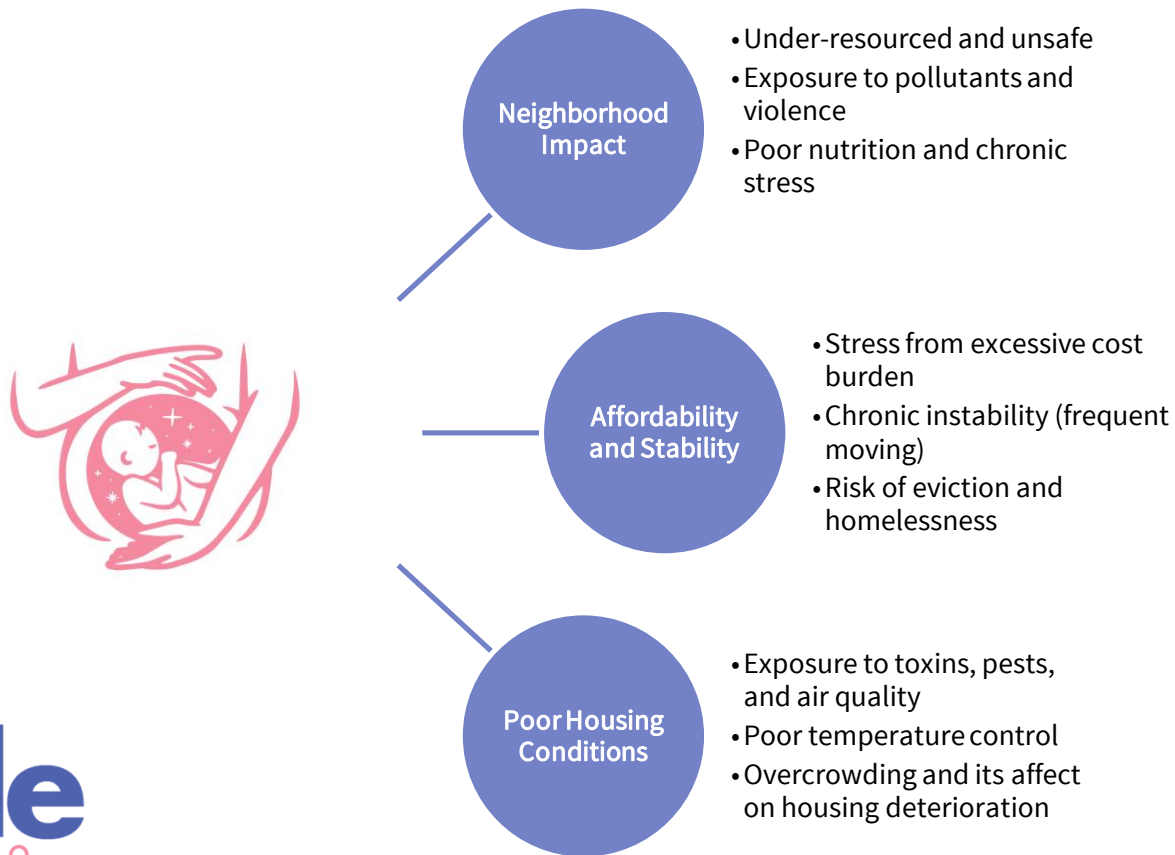
But the community needs more!

- Let's explore connections in infant mortality, housing and reproductive health service access.

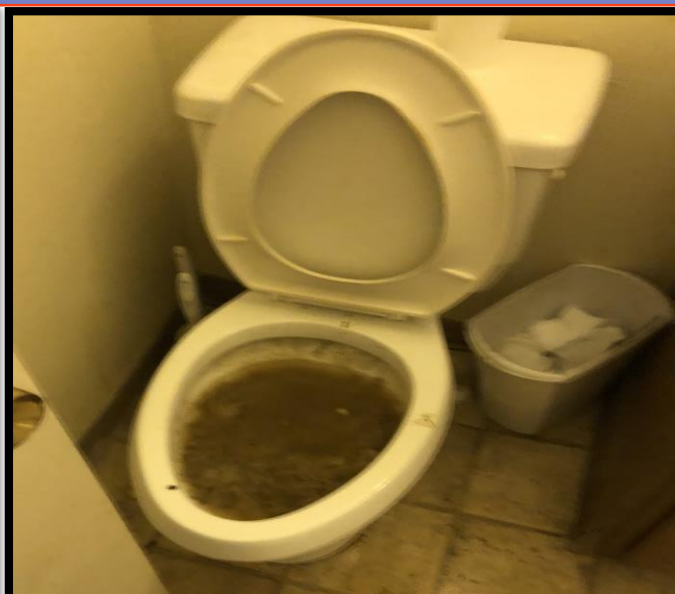
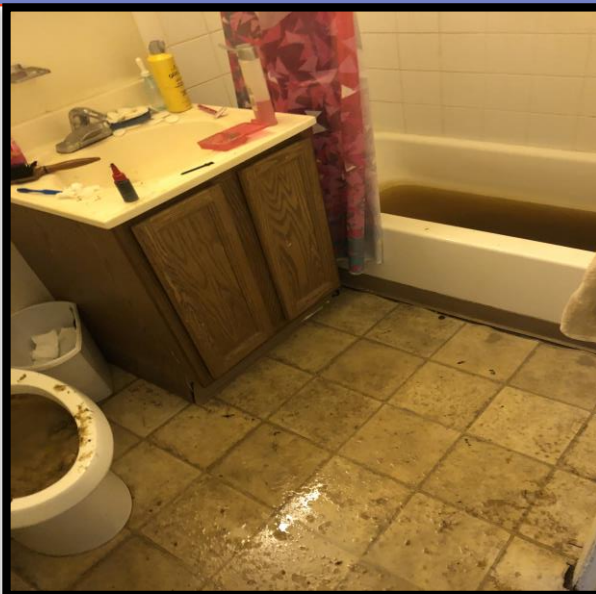
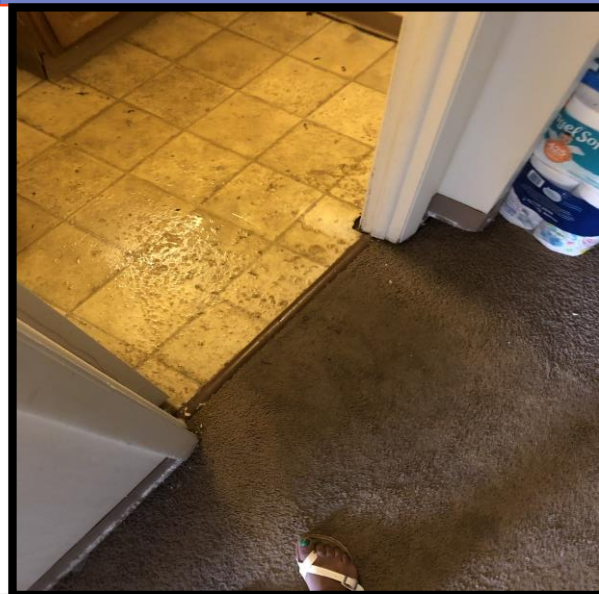


Housing and Infant Health

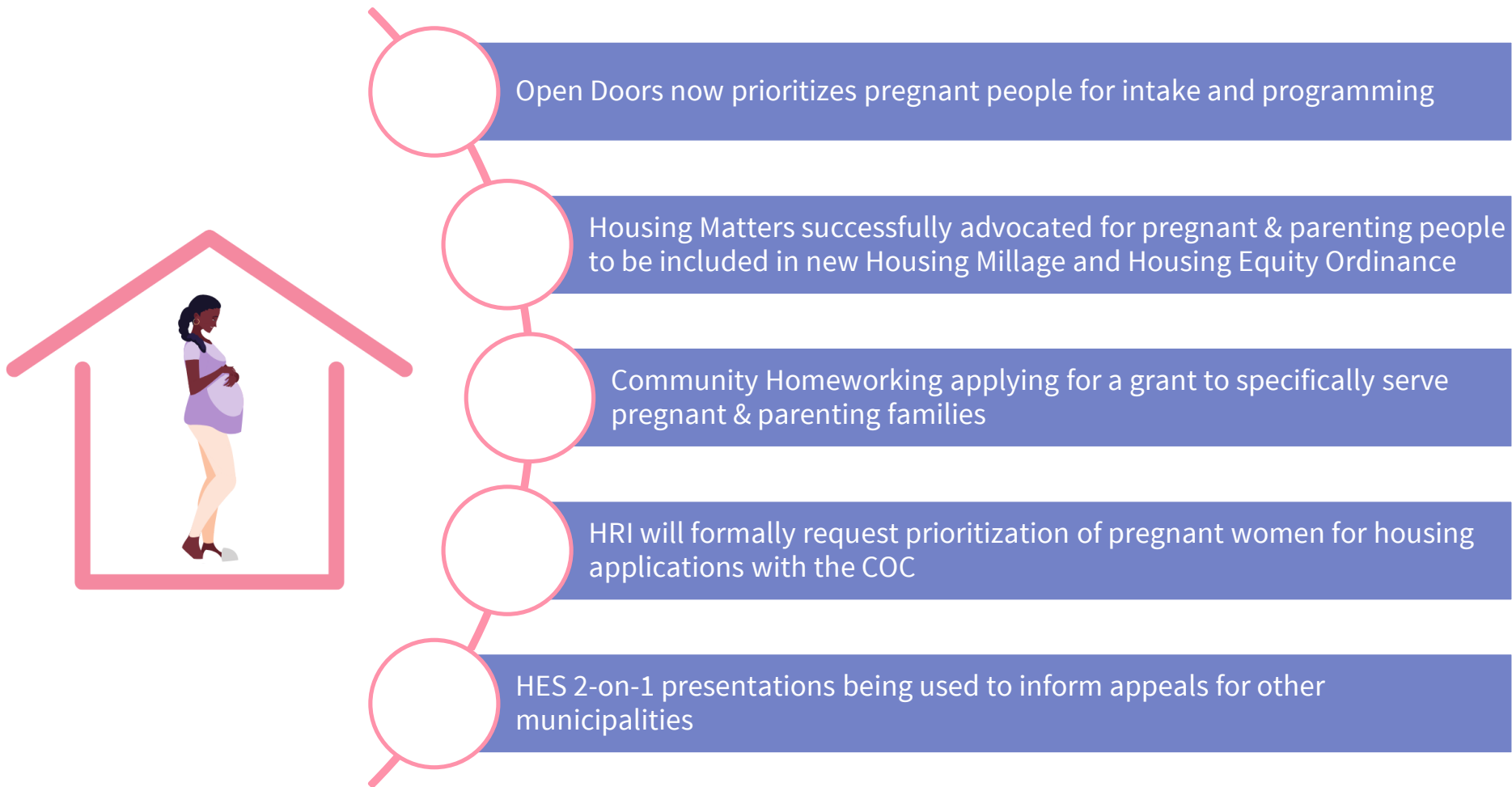
- Historical and contemporary housing discrimination has three causal pathways leading to poor infant health (Reece, 2021)



Could you safely raise an infant here?



HES 2-on-1 Outcomes: 28+ Leaders



What does repro health have to do with it? Everything!

- Repro health is one aspect of health that impacts every stage of one's lifespan, yet is the least accessible

- Repro health intersects with community health

- Less access to abortion = higher rates of maternal and infant mortality + poverty
- Less access to doula services = higher rates of infant mortality + c-section
- Less access to gender-affirming care = increased LGBTQIA+ marginalization, suicide, and harm
- Increased trauma/stress from lack of services = cascade of health implications (like poor birth outcomes)

Scenario: After paying sky-high rent and utilities, you have \$100 left for the month:

- Will you buy groceries? Or will you pay for your repro health copays?
- Will you pay for critical home repairs? Or will you fill your hormone prescriptions?
- Will you use the final \$100 towards fund your much-needed abortion, knowing that you will have no funds left to take care of the kids you already have?

**Our community is left making these impossible decisions.
We're working to change that!**

Repro Health Access: The Need

- 2019 Survey: 1 in 3 residents face barriers to accessing repro health services
 - Finances + Transportation
 - People are delaying treatment and/or forgoing care entirely
 - COVID has exacerbated the need for service coverage
- People should not have to choose between reproductive health and basic needs
- LGBTQIA+ community needs are unmet; further marginalizing the marginalized

Answering the Call: YWCA Reproductive Health Fund

- Launched in Fall 2021, the YWCA RHF is the **first of it's kind** fund in the nation to cover different reproductive health services in Kalamazoo County.
- Partnership between the YWCA Kalamazoo and reproductive health providers to make sure key repro health services are paid for!

Priority Population:

- People of Color (regardless of income level)
- Uninsured People
- Undocumented People
- LGBTQIA+ Community
- Low Income People

Must be a current Kalamazoo County resident

Covered Services

- Doula Services (prenatal/postpartum/post-loss)
- Emergency Contraception Kits
- Transportation
- Name/Gender Marker Changes
- Abortions (medication & in-clinic)
- Hormone Replacement Therapy
- HIV Prevention (PEP)

Coming Soon:

- Gender-Affirming Products



Contact us today!

(269) 978-1200

ywcareprohealthfund@ywcakalamazoo.org

YWCA Repro Health Fund Impact

- \$25k+ of direct client support provided from Sept-Dec. 2021 alone!
- Over 70% of health fund users are people of color (52% are Black)
- 74% of RHF users have an annual income of less than \$24,600
- Over 95% of health fund users had some type of insurance coverage yet still couldn't afford key repro services

Clearly, the community needs this health fund!

More details available on the 2021 Impact Report document



Questions ?

*Komal Razvi, MPH
Director of Community Health
krazvi@ywcakalamazoo.org*

Websites: www.cradlekalamazoo.com & ywcakalamazoo.org



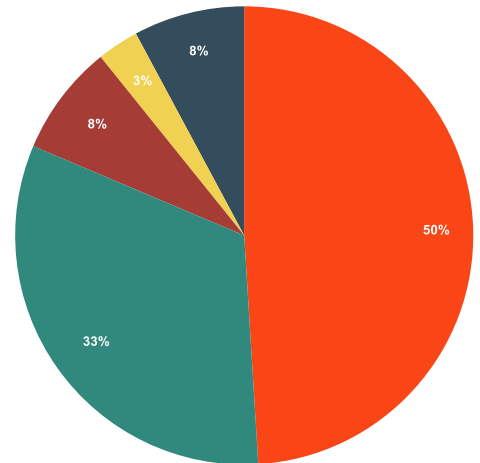
2021 Impact Report: September to December

Kalamazoo Comprehensive Reproductive Health Fund

Launched in November 2021, the RHF exists to serve women, girls, and gender diverse people to financially meet reproductive health care needs. This fund came to fruition through extensive data gathering and community input. Based on a survey from 2019, 1-in-3 self-identified women in Kalamazoo County noted they do not have access to comprehensive reproductive health care services.

Overall Service Use

- Abortion Services **50%**
- Doula Care **33%**
- Emergency Contraception **3%**
- Gender-Affirming Care **8%**
- Transportation **8%**

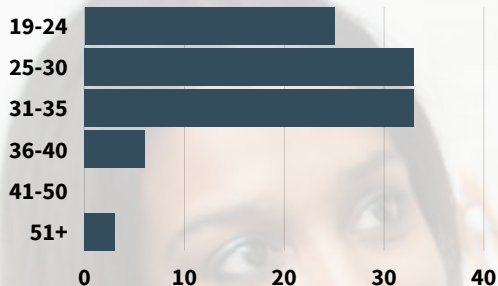


RHF Launch Highlights

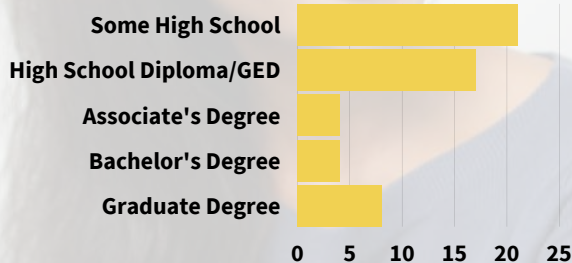
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|------------|--|-------------------|---|
| 40 | number of times the RHF was utilized | Over \$25k | spent providing services |
| 70% | of RHF users are People of Color | 36 | total number of RHF clients |
| 52% | of RHF users are Black | 11% | of clients utilized the safety name feature |
| 74% | of clients have an annual income of less than \$24,600 | 50% | of clients were unemployed |

Data & Details: September to December 2021

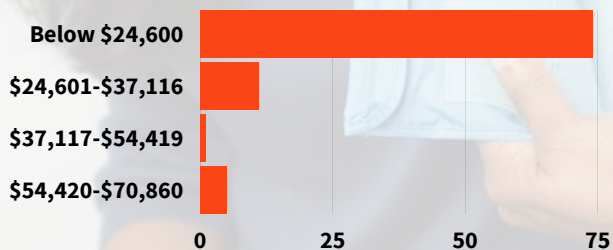
Age:



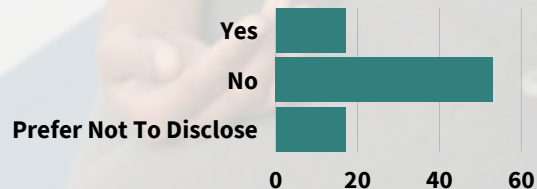
Education:



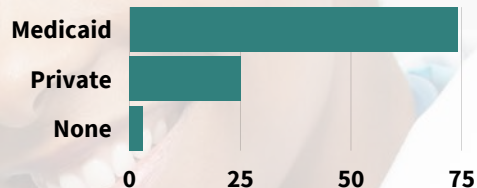
Household Income:



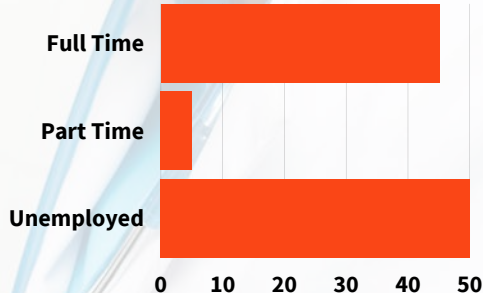
LGBTQIA+:



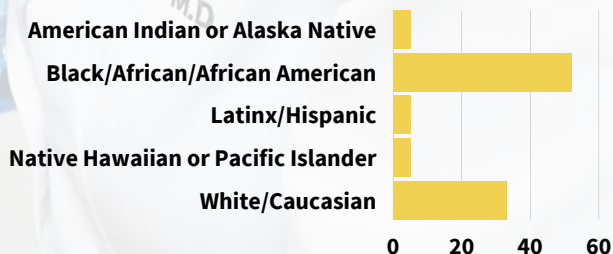
Insurance:



Employment Status:



Race/Ethnicity:



Doula Package Use:

