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From: DCF BWF Work Programs Help Desk
Sent: Monday, April 19, 2021 10:00 AM
To: DCF DL DFES BWF W-2 Agency CARES Coordinators
Cc: DCF DL DFES BWF W-2 Agency Directors; DCF DL DFES BWF W-2 REGIONAL STAFF
Subject: NMHM Awareness and Resources

Good Morning,

This email is to raise awareness of National Minority Health Month (NMHM). In response to the disproportionate impact COVID-19 has had on racial and ethnic minority communities, this April the theme of NMHM is #VaccineReady. To support this theme, the National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities has provided a webpage of [COVID-19 and vaccine resources](#), offered in multiple languages. For information on how to get vaccinated in Wisconsin and to learn about Wisconsin's commitment to health equity, please visit the [DHS Minority Health webpage](#).

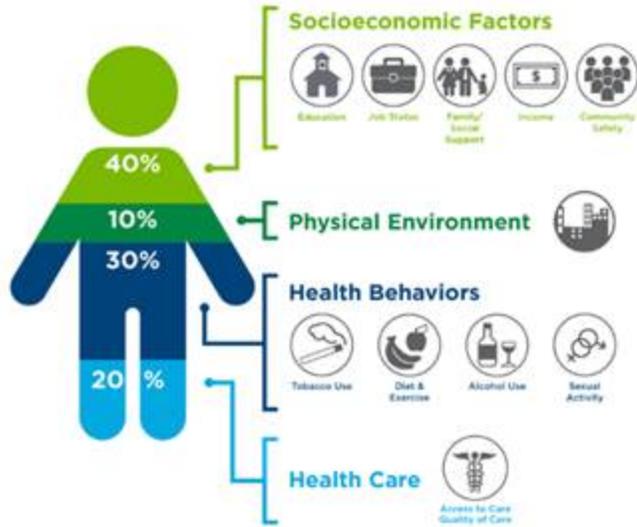
Black Maternal Health Week (BMHW), which took place April 11-17 and was founded by the [Black Mamas Matter Alliance](#), is intentionally centered in the middle of NMHM to deepen the conversation around Black maternal health, as well as birth and reproductive justice. In Wisconsin, the [maternal mortality disparity](#) between Black women and White women is higher than the national average, and our state ranks worst nationally for high rates of [Black infant mortality](#). Due to these stark racial disparities and the impact of the social determinants of health, which are pictured in the graphic below, it is important to make sure women who are pregnant, and especially those with at-risk pregnancies, are informed of the W-2 services available to them.

Beyond W-2 services, the [Woman, Infants, and Children \(WIC\)](#) program is also available to low-income women who are pregnant, breastfeeding, postpartum, or have an infant or children under 5 years old. WIC is a DHS assistance program that provides supplemental foods, breast feeding and nutrition education, and referrals to doctors, dentists and other public assistance programs.

For more information, visit the [National Minority Health Month](#) webpage.

To learn about U.S. racial disparities in maternal mortality, please read the articles on the Black Mama's Matter Alliance [literature page](#).

What Goes Into Your Health?



Source: Institute for Clinical Systems Improvement, Using Behavioral Change to Solve Complex Problems (October 2014)

The BridgeGroup Group

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