



## “Every Family Counts”

PRESENTERS:

DAVID FLUELLEN: FOUNDER AND CEO, TURNKEY DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE

KATIE CALHOUN: PROGRAM MANAGER

COLLEGE OF MEDICINE, OBSTETRICS AND GYNECOLOGY - MOMS2B



# Infant Mortality Defined

## Infant Mortality:

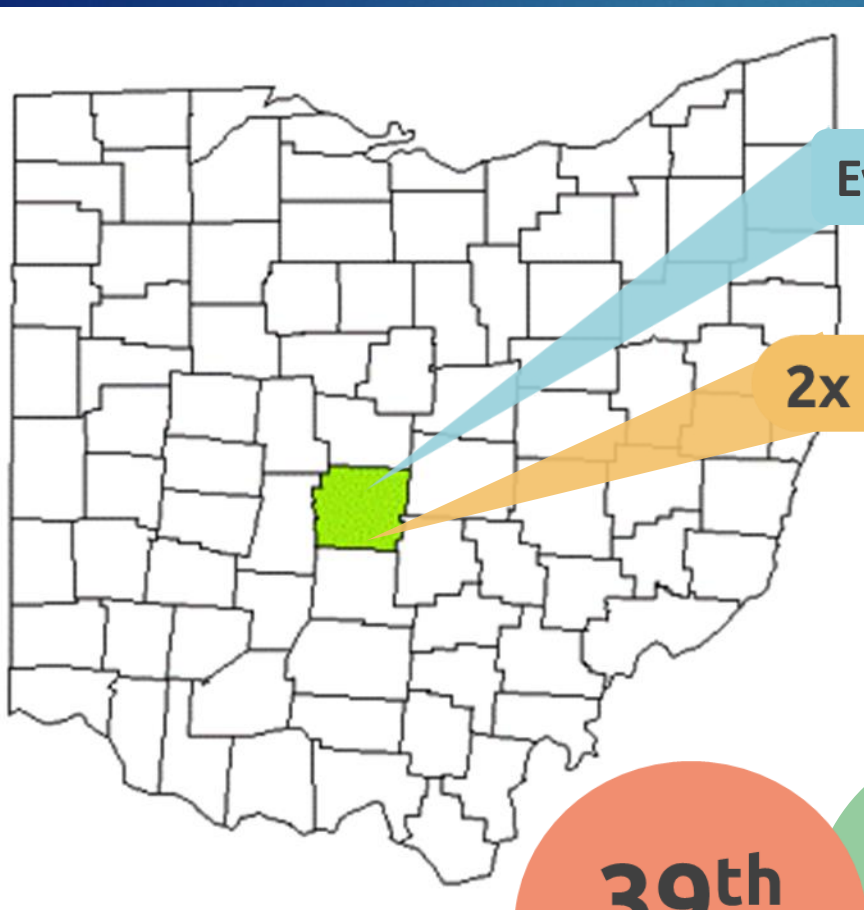
- ▶ The death of a baby before his or her first birthday
- ▶ Measured as a rate – the number of deaths per 1,000 live births

## Leading Causes:

- ▶ Prematurity (born too soon)
- ▶ Low Birth Weight (born too small)
- ▶ Birth Defects
- ▶ Sleep-Related
- ▶ Maternal Complications



# Infant Mortality Ranking



**Every week** in Franklin County...

**2x** as many Black babies die...



**39<sup>th</sup>**  
of 50

**43<sup>rd</sup>**  
of 50



# Fathers role in reducing Infant Mortality and Early Childhood Development

- ▶ Numerous studies have shown that when fathers are a presence in their families, the impact can be significant in terms of early development, academic achievement, and the overall well-being of the child.
- ▶ A father's support can make a big difference even before their baby is born. Researchers have found that when a father is involved before birth, his presence can potentially lower the risk of infant mortality in the first year of life. The influence is particularly relevant for African American babies

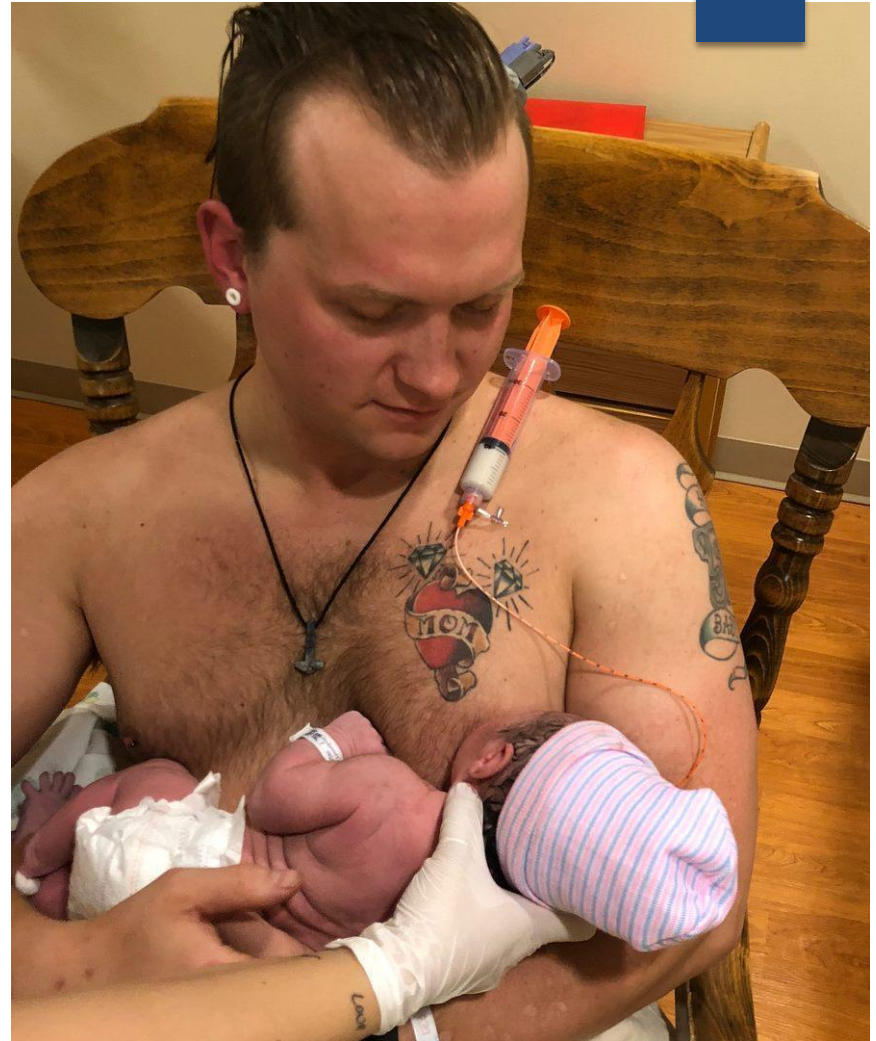




# Dads and Breastfeeding

► Research on breastfeeding support has consistently identified fathers as an important source of support in the decision to breastfeed and in its implementation. The literature indicates that father influence four aspects in particular: the breastfeeding decision, assistance at first feeding, during of breastfeeding, and risk factors for bottle feeding.

► US study reports that babies who are breastfed have a 21% lower risk of death in their first year, compared with babies never breastfed. The reduction in risk rises to 38% if babies are breastfed for 3 months or more.



# What If We Provided Dads with Prenatal Education



# Pilot Program



**Ohio** | Commission  
on Fatherhood



- ▶ 2015 Ohio Commission Fatherhood 2 year \$40,000 grant to offer support to Dads expecting a child
- ▶ Fatherhood Programing offered in 4 sites where infant mortality rate were the highest in Franklin County.



**Columbus**  
Urban League

*Empowering Communities.  
Changing Lives.*

# Moms2B: How did they get started?

Moms2B started in 2010 at their  
Weinland

Park location as a Healthy Food and  
Nutrition Program for pregnant women

Moms2B started with only 5 moms in a  
10

week program and they now support  
moms

until their babies turn 1 Moms2B serves  
over 100 moms a week.

2016-18: CelebrateOne, a city-  
wide initiative, formed to promote  
healthy birth outcomes expands  
Moms2B to a total of 8 areas.

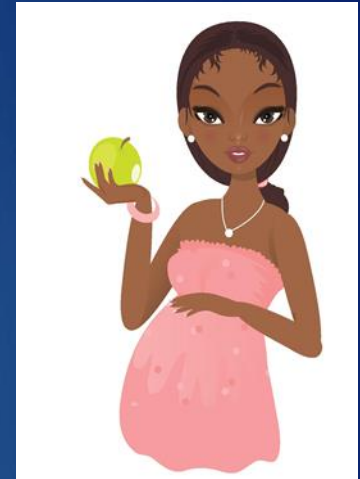




# Moms2B Session Content

## 2 Hours Weekly

- Prenatal:
  - Connect to prenatal care
  - Teaching, e.g. signs of labor
  - Address social determinants of health
- Postpartum:
  - Connect to Nurse Home Visit
  - Breastfeeding support
  - “Baby’s First Year” group
- Weekly Group Education Curriculum designed by Moms2B with a focus on:
  - Nutrition
  - Smoking cessation
  - Stress reduction
  - Breastfeeding
  - Safe sleep
  - Reproductive health



# Sister and Brother Circle



# DADS Session Content at a Glance

## Dads and Prenatal Care

- Dads involved in Moms prenatal care
- Teaching, e.g. signs of labor
- Address social determinants of health

## Dads and Postpartum Care

- Connect to Nurse Home Visit
- Breastfeeding support
- “Baby’s First Year” group

## Weekly Group Education Curriculum

- The secrets for creating safe, loving, stable, and nurtured families.
- Positive discipline tools taught through a uniquely father-friendly method for successful child behavior management.
- Effective family communication techniques to strengthen the father-child and father-mother relationships.
- How to stop fighting and arguing by using proven-effective strategies for conflict resolution and problem solving.
- How to achieve cooperation and teamwork in family life.



# Big Lesson Once a Month



Educating Moms  
and Dads on  
Parenting Skills  
Co-Parenting  
Strategies

- ▶ Moms and Dads  
Provided the same  
content





# Understanding The Barriers

- ▶ Experiencing the system that was designed to leave dad out
- ▶ Conflict with mom
- ▶ Conflict with previous partner
- ▶ Misunderstanding of legal rights
- ▶ Employment

# How Has it Been Successful?

- ▶ Dads report feeling more involved and connected to other dads.
- ▶ Moms report a better relationship with their parenting partners.
- ▶ We've connected with over 327 dads
- ▶ Over 82 documented successful birth outcomes
- ▶ Dads report feeling more confident and knowledgeable about the birthing process and parenting in general
- ▶ We've linked Dads to employment services
- ▶ We've assisted Dads with establishing paternity and gaining visitation rights



# The Responsible Fatherhood Pilot Highlights



## Confidence

100% of dads displayed a higher confidence in their knowledge of how to care for a healthy baby.



## Safe Sleep

Over 90% of dads are now currently practicing or plan to practice the ABC's of Safe Sleep by enforcing that their baby sleeps in a crib, without pillows, and on their back.

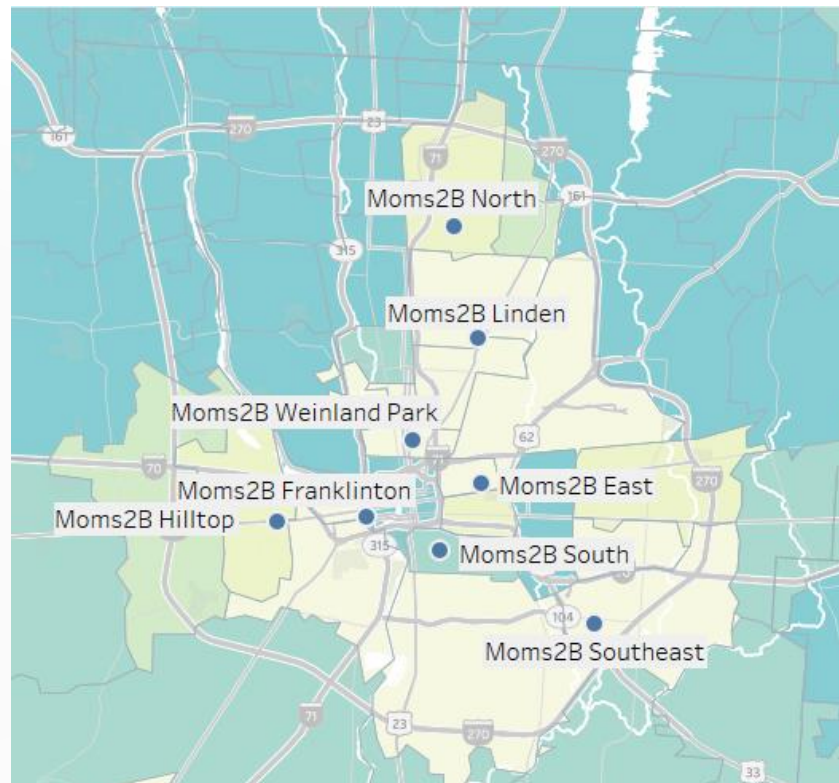


## Parenting/Child Involvement

10% of dads obtained knowledge on how to establish paternity



## Programing Provided in High Risk Neighborhoods











<https://youtu.be/R9tyVDJdHfQ>