

**BEFORE THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FOR MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON**

PROCLAMATION NO. 2021-071

Proclaiming September, 2021 as Infant Mortality Awareness Month in Multnomah County, Oregon.

The Multnomah County Board of Commissioners Finds:

WHEREAS; Multnomah County is committed to reducing infant mortality and improving the health outcomes of Black and Indigenous mothers and babies through respectful community-clinical practices and interventions; and

WHEREAS; September is Infant Mortality Awareness Month, an initiative that supports and inspires people from around the nation to take action in support of the goal to improve the health and well-being of women, infants, children and families; and

WHEREAS; Infant Mortality Awareness Month is an initiative intended to celebrate infants living beyond their first year of life; and

WHEREAS; racial inequities in infant mortality rates persist among Black/African American and Native/Indigenous communities in Multnomah County and are the result of barriers in healthcare, employment, and community settings as well as racial and ethnic discrimination; and

WHEREAS; Multnomah County recognizes the benefits of building on the strengths and wisdom of our communities; raising up needed changes to support health for both babies and mothers; and the importance of reducing racial disparities in healthcare and birth outcomes for babies; and;

WHEREAS; National Infant Mortality Awareness Month provides opportunities for our community to get involved and support Multnomah County Health Department Maternal (Parent) Child Family Health, Healthy Birth Initiatives, Future Generations Collaborative, and our partners in Multnomah County; and the opportunity to encourage government agencies, community-based organizations, healthcare systems and academic institutions to work together to engage in equity efforts in their communities to eliminate disparities in infant mortality in our County.

The Multnomah County Board of Commissioners Proclaims:

September, 2021 as **Infant Mortality Awareness Month** in Multnomah County, Oregon, in recognition and celebration of the importance of each child born in our community celebrating their first birthday and living healthy and rewarding lives.

ADOPTED this 16th day of September, 2021.




BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FOR MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON

Deborah Kafoury, Chair

REVIEWED:

JENNY M. MADKOUR, COUNTY ATTORNEY
FOR MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON

By 

Jenny M. Madkour, County Attorney

SUBMITTED BY: Ebony Clarke, Director