



CENTER FOR MATERNAL HEALTH EQUITY

March 1, 2021

Dear Colleague,

The National Institute of Health (NIH) Maternal health and PRegnancy Outcomes Vision for Everyone (IMPROVE) initiative has awarded a supplemental grant to the Georgia Clinical and Translational Science Alliance (CTSA) to address the inequities in maternal morbidity and mortality rates. Morehouse School of Medicine (MSM) is the lead of the **Georgia IMPROVE which will prioritize statewide community engagement to inform priorities on promoting maternal health equity**. The co-leads of the project are Cheryl Franklin, MD, MPH (OB/GYN physician) and Natalie D. Hernandez, PhD, MPH (Interim Director of the MSM Center for Maternal Health Equity).

The **main objectives of GA IMPROVE** are to:

- 1) Develop a multi stakeholder, community-based **Perinatal Care Research and Intervention Network (PCRIN)** of women, healthcare providers, maternity-serving paraprofessionals, and health systems, to identify barriers to and develop stakeholder-informed solutions to improve health equity for African-American mothers in Georgia.
- 2) Conduct a Pilot feasibility study of patient-centered perinatal care coordination, using remote monitoring, to support care transition from delivery through 42 days postpartum.

The PCRIN will serve as the operational foundation for future maternal health research and dissemination of useful interventions led by the GA CTSA and MSM. The network will also serve as a valuable resource for the newly established MSM Center for Maternal Health Equity (CMHE) which was conceived as an incubator for inquiry into the myriad causes of MM and severe maternal morbidity. We will recruit interested providers and organize the network borrowing from the model and expertise of the MSM [Community Physicians Network \(CPN\)](#) and professional association partners such as the GA OB/GYN Society.

As a colleague who provides professional healthcare services to pregnant and/or postpartum women in Georgia, you are receiving this **special invitation to join the PCRIN**.

Please answer the short survey (click on this link) [PCRIN Provider Participation](#). Your interest in participation as well as the list of benefits associated with your participation. If you should have further questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to Drs. Franklin and/or Hernandez. _

We look forward to your participation in the PCRIN and your help to *lead the creation and advancement of maternal health equity*.

Sincerely,

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