

The CA Black Infant and Maternal Health Project

A collaboration of PTBi and First 5 Center

Community Researcher Position Announcement

Background

The California Preterm Birth Initiative (PTBi) is excited to announce a new collaboration with the First 5 Center for Children's Policy. PTBi and First 5 Center are collaborating to identify best practices and promising solutions to improve maternal and infant health outcomes for Black families in California, with a particular focus on infant mortality and maternal morbidity. PTBi will specifically research best practices from across the country related to prenatal and infant health programs intended to improve outcomes for Black families; research the efforts taken so far in California to reduce infant mortality and morbidity and their understood effects; and work with researchers, advocates, practitioners and other stakeholders to design a short and long-term strategy for improved outcomes for Black families. Initial activities for this collaboration will be led by Alexis Cobbins, Shanell Williams, and Solaire Spellman along with support from several PTBi team members, community partners, stakeholders and graduate student researchers.

The Community Researcher for this project will be an individual that is based in Southern California (preferably Los Angeles County) with experience working for organization(s) serving Black birthing people and families. The Community Researcher will have strong connections in the social service field and an understanding of the social determinants and systemic factors that influence infant mortality and morbidity. The researcher will help to engage individuals with lived experience of infant mortality and morbidity as well as community based stakeholders that work directly with the population.

Compensation and Timeline

The project will take place from May 2021 to February 2022. The Community Researcher will be paid a **\$3600 stipend** and can anticipate spending a total of **100 hours over the course of the project**.

Preferred Qualifications & Skills

- Experience working with the social service system for Black birthing people in Southern California
- Experience with community engagement, organizing and direct outreach
- Ability to work independently and meet deliverables for the project
- Strong interpersonal, organization, and communication skills
- Passion for supporting Black birthing people

Deliverables

*PTBi staff will provide direction and support for the completion of deliverables

- Complete qualitative research training
- Complete CITI Human Subjects Protection Training
- Help recruit participants for stakeholder interviews and focus groups through direct outreach, email, and phone correspondence
- Facilitate focus groups with identified participants with lived experience from Southern California
- Conduct one-on-one interviews with social service staff who support Black birthing people
- Analyze and summarize interview and focus group data
- Attend monthly Steering Committee meetings
- Provide administrative support for project
- Provide expert advice on service landscape in Southern California

If you are interested in this position, please email shanell.williams@ucsf.edu with CV or resume.