Conceptual Framework for the Black Infant Health Program

BIH Activities

INDIVIDUAL

Services provided to African-American women, infants, and their families & partners include:

- Referrals to medical, social & mental health services
- Health education

Problem

Poor birth

outcomes

Social isolation

Lack of access to

quality health care

Maximizing impact

(numbers served &

of the program

Lack of cultural

skills among

providers

awareness and

effect size)

Lack of health

Environmental

knowledge

Poverty

Racism

stressors

- Social and group support
- Identifying resources
- Self-advocacy

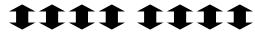


COMMUNITY

- •Promote community and provider engagement and advocacy
- •Educate community and providers about influence of social inequities on health

Intermediate Outcomes INDIVIDUAL

- Increased health knowledge
- Increased healthy behaviors
- •Increased empowerment through improved life skills and coping skills
- •Increased receipt of quality medical, social & mental health services
- Decreased unplanned pregnancy
- •Increased social support both for & among the women
- •Decreased stress by mobilizing resources and services
- Improved parenting
- Increased bonding between mother & infant
- •Improved infants' developmental milestones



COMMUNITY

- Increased community and provider knowledge & cultural competence
- •Increased community partnerships & linkages among service agencies
- •Decreased stressors in the community through community & provider/agency action
- •Improved understanding among community and providers of influence of social inequities on health

<u>Ultimate Goal</u>

To improve African
American infant and
maternal health in
California and
decrease
Black:White health
disparities and
social inequities for
women and infants

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

- 1. Comprehensive and integrated: Address multiple risk factors and use multiple strategies
- 2. Multi-level: Address individual, community, service systems and societal levels, with empowerment focus
- 3. Collaborative: Partner with community providers and agencies with similar activities
- 4. Community-driven: Developed, implemented and evaluated by local communities
- 5. Evidence-based: Developed from proven or promising strategies; impact is measurable
- 6. Culturally competent: Designed & implemented in a culturally-competent manner
- 7. Staff training and professional development: Conducted to ensure the BIH activities are provided effectively