

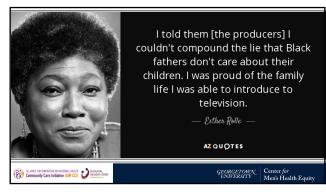




Goals Describe the media and professional narratives regarding fathers' involvement in pregnancy and childbirth Discuss the AIM CCI project and our findings from focus groups with fathers Provide an overview of potential implications of our findings and next steps GEORGETOWN Center for Men's Health Equit Community Care Initiative (AIM CCI)

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Background

- The Alliance for Innovation on Maternal Health Community Care Initiative (AIM CCI) is a federally funded agreement awarded to NHSA to inform, develop, and pilot strategies to improve maternal health outcomes using Maternal Safety Bundles (MSB) in non-hospital settings.
- There are few evidence-based programs designed to support expectant and new fathers, and even fewer programs for new and expectant fathers are informed by the voices and experiences of expectant and new fathers.
- National Healthy Start Association was funded by HRSA (grant number U7BMC33635) to lead the AIM CCI Cooperative Agreement.



Fatherhood Focus Group Aims

- Examine social, cultural and environmental factors that influence behaviors among new fathers
- Explore the experiences that expectant and new fathers had when seeking care and providing support leading up to, during and following the birth of their child
- Center the voices and knowledge of expectant and new fathers to inform the creation of new AIM CCI quality improvement bundles to help reduce maternal morbidity and mortality in the U.S.

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Methods

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- Recruitment largely completed by site staff via email, flyers and word of mouth
- Fathers were eligible if they were 18 years or older and had a child born within the past 2 years
- Twelve virtual focus groups completed November 2021-April 2022
 Two focus groups per site in each of 6 AIM CCI sites**
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 Audio and video recorded and transcribed focus groups for analysis in qualitative analysis software
 - Codebook

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- Phenomenological thematic analysis
- Participants received \$100 gift cards as an honorarium

**Note: we were unable to use data from one site, this presentation provides data and results form 5 sites/10 focus groups

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Site	Number of Focus Groups	Number of Participants	Demographics • Average age: 34 years
Atlanta, GA	2 groups	16 participants	86% African American
resno, CA	2 groups	16 participants	
New Orleans, LA	2 groups	18 participants	44% first biological child
Гulsa, ОК	2 groups	10 participants	
Newark, NJ	2 groups	20 participants	71% employed full
Total .	10 groups	80 participants	time
			80% married

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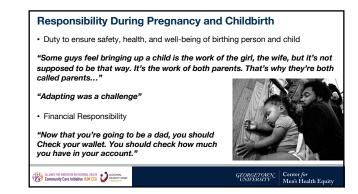


Accessibility During Pregnancy and Childbirth · Time Management "Give more time to family, create time" "My greatest fear was time because of my work schedule" "Bond between father and child just as important as bond between mother and child but have to make the time for it - had to make time to create that bond." Community Care Initiative (AIM CCI) GEORGETOWN Center for Men's Health Equi 16

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Where Did Fathers Say They Went For Help? Subtopics Support from family and friends Resources Sought
Family (mother, father, siblings, etc.)
Friends with children
Friends with medical backgrounds person's needs General questions Education on newborn Dr. Google and other internet resources Healthcare professionals Baby or infant Healthy Start messages and resources New father's class Fatherhood involvement development and needs Dr. Google and other internet resources Healthcare professionals Counseling/ therapy services family planning Financial advice A broken system Financial advisors and experts Legal Counseling egalities and the A lack of information from state ystem or federal agencies Pregnancy changes/ compilations Stress and anxiety Dr. Google and other internet resources Mental health resources and counseling Navigating relationships Role Transition Experienced individuals GEORGETOWX Center for Men's Health Equi ALLIANCE FOR IMMONATION ON MATERIAL HEALTH
Community Care Initiative (AIM CCI)



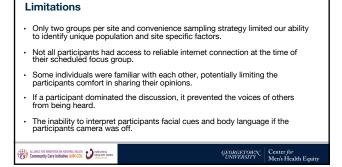
Discussion · Men are willing to seek support and face challenges and barriers with encouragement. social support, information, and policies and practices that seek to engage and involve them Our work adds fathers' perspectives to the "accessible, engaged, and responsible" framework DO NOT assume that fathers are not invested in the pregnancy and the health of the birthing person and child: Many fathers are quite invested and committed but do not have the adequate resources or support ALLUNCE FOR INNOVATION ON MATERIAL HEALTH PRACTICES SWITCH STATES AND ANALOGOUS AND AN GEORGETOWN Center for Men's Health Equ 24

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Application to AIM CCI & Next Steps

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- Integrate the perspective of fathers seeking care during pregnancy and delivery into new programs and practices.
- Target quality improvement goals that serve as the building blocks for the needs and resources new or expectant fathers are currently lacking.
- Create mechanisms to provide information, support, and a sense of community and togetherness for fathers (socially, mentally, financially, or legally).
- Incorporate resources fathers are currently lacking into the pre and postnatal period and make them standard practice of care.

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