Safety
Abundance
Liberation

#ABirthCenterForEveryCommunity
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fzo2Sk RK--Y
What is unique about the role of Black, Indigenous, people of color led community birth centers and Birth Center Equity’s approach?
BLACK, INDIGENOUS, PEOPLE OF COLOR-LED BIRTH CENTERS

UNIQUE ROLE

• Reverse maternal health crisis by providing safe and culturally-reverent care in communities of color

• Crucial part of a vibrant health care system

• Vital infrastructure for BIPOC midwifery education, training, and practice

• Community institutions healing generations
BIPOC-LED BIRTH CENTERS

**BARRIERS**

- Racialized undermining of midwifery
- Inequitable access to
  - midwifery education
  - preceptorship opportunities
  - capital to open birth centers
- Differential impact of
  - unsupportive state-level policies
  - inequitable reimbursement
  - inequitable birth outcomes & birth care options
UNIVERSAL GOALS

TARGETED STRATEGIES

• All people have access to all safe birth options.
• Every community has access to a birth center.
• Vibrant abundant community birth infrastructure for generations to come.

“Targeted universalism means setting universal goals pursued by targeted processes to achieve those goals. Within a targeted universalism framework, universal goals are established for all groups concerned. The strategies developed to achieve those goals are targeted, based upon how different groups are situated within structures, culture, and across geographies to obtain the universal goal. Targeted universalism is goal oriented, and the processes are directed in service of the explicit, universal goal.” J. Powell
VISION
A world where midwives, families and communities of color thrive.

MISSION
To invest in Black, Indigenous, people of color led birth centers to grow and sustain community birth infrastructure for generations.
COMMUNITY.

BIRTH CENTER EQUITY is a relationship and values-based network that nurtures BIPOC birth center leader connection, community-building and peer-learning.

SAFETY | ABUNDANCE | LIBERATION
Tara Lawal

Birth Center Equity in Relationship with Birth Center Leaders

“Who are my natural allies? Who are the people that have been believing in us since the beginning?...I found an amazing community of people here with Birth Center Equity.”  T. Lawal, Midwife, Seattle, WA
Birth Center Equity

**CAPITAL**

- Leverages collective strength & visibility to generate funding and investment at scale.

- Catalyzes community birth center development through capital investments and innovations in economies of scale to grow community birth infrastructure.
CAPITAL TOOL DEVELOPMENT

- Grants
- Recoverable Grants
- Equity Investments
- Open Doors Initiative
- BCE Capital - Family of Funds Development with Orchid Capital

Ownership | Equity | Liberation

“The more nature and community we have the less money we need. The challenge we face is not scarcity, it’s deepening relationship and flow. It’s creating the Beloved Community that Dr. King dreamed of. In relationship and flow there is fundamental abundance. Full Spectrum Capital is a way to direct our collective wealth towards human creativity, evolution and thriving in harmony with the rest of the natural world.”

– Taj James, Full Spectrum Capital Partners – Co-Founder
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>#BCEGOALS</strong></th>
<th><strong>COLLABORATE to</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>SUPPORT</strong></td>
<td>10 NEW BIPOC community birth centers to open by the end of 2023.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>STRENGTHEN</strong></td>
<td>grow and sustain existing BIPOC community birth centers.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>ADVANCE</strong></td>
<td>equity-centered public policies to make the birth center model of care accessible to BIPOC.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>ENSURE</strong></td>
<td>a birth center for every community.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>BUILD</strong></td>
<td>lasting community birth infrastructure.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>ASK</strong></td>
<td>questions that support the growth &amp; sustainability of BIPOC-led community birth infrastructure.</td>
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How can BIPOC led birth centers be recognized and scaled as a population health improvement strategy?

What does it look like to build birth centers with midwives and families at the center? How do we build birth centers where midwives thrive?

What policies, strategies, alliances (beyond traditional philanthropy) can support resourcing BIPOC led birth centers at scale?

How do we make beloved economy a reality in our communities?
Colorado Momnibus
State-Level Birth Equity Policy Spotlight

This video was a collaboration between Elephant Circle, Birth Detroit, MI State of Birth Justice with funding provided by SisterSong.

Birth Equity Legislation in Colorado
https://youtu.be/lDsG0AEE8Go
Community birth centers are the solution to the maternal health crisis.

Midwifery is the heart of communities, cultures and economies.

The values, practices and structures of community birth are at the center of a beloved economy.
Our work today heals past, present and futures.

Leseliey Welch, MPH, MBA
leseliey@birthcenterequity.org
Established BIPOC BCs
FIGURE 2. BIRTH CENTER EQUITY (BCE) AND OTHER BIRTH CENTERS LED BY BLACK, INDIGENOUS, PEOPLE OF COLOR

- BCE ESTABLISHED
- BCE UNDER DEVELOPMENT
- OTHER ESTABLISHED
- OTHER UNDER DEVELOPMENT