



Expecting Justice Abundant Birth Project

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California
Preterm Birth
Initiative

San Francisco
Department of Public Health



Preterm Birth



AT BIRTH

Neurodevelopment
Respiratory
Challenges

FIRST YEAR

Infant
Mortality
Impaired Attachment

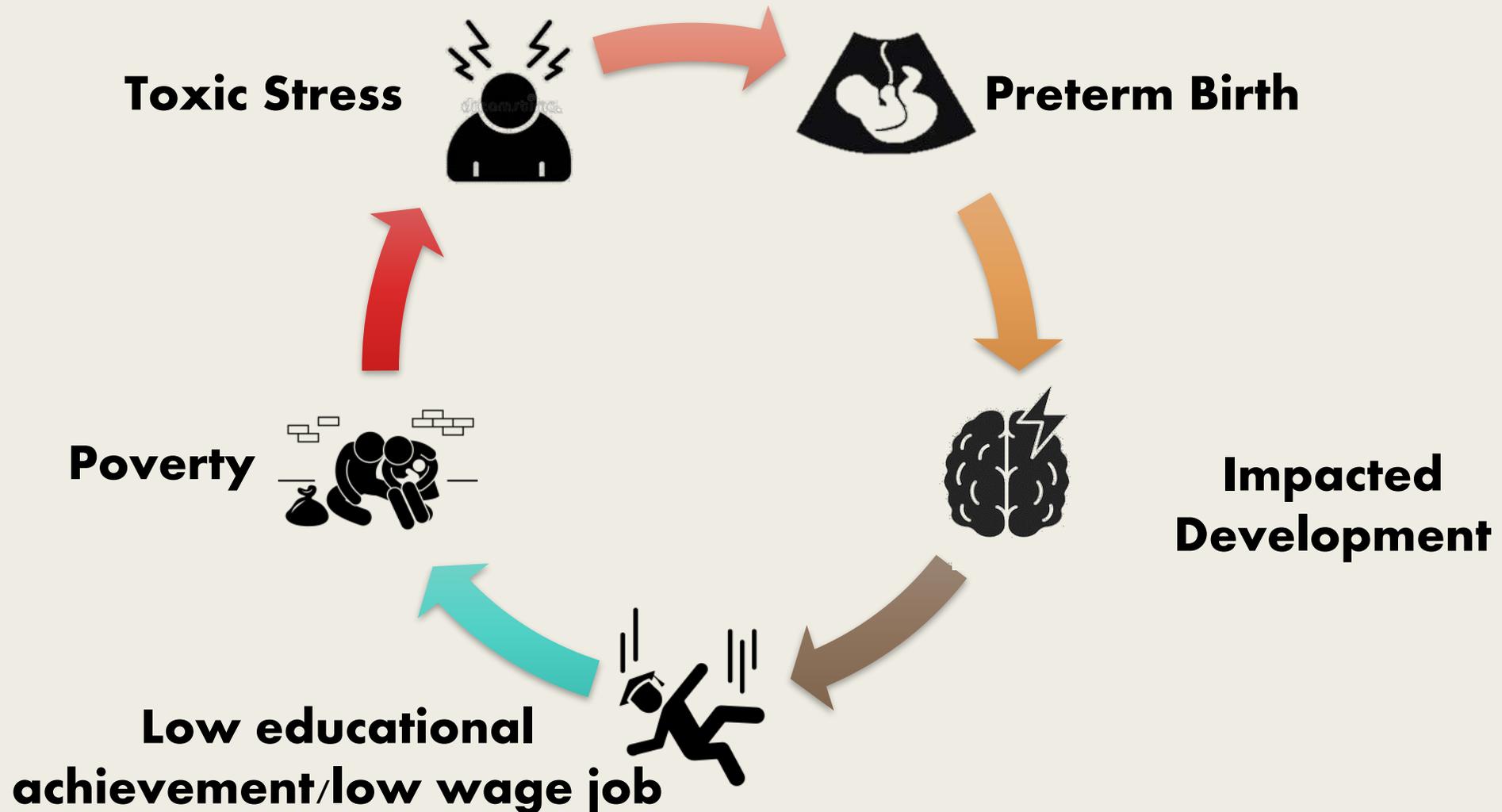
CHILDHOOD

Cognition,
Academic
Achievement

ADULTHOOD

Chronic disease,
Earning
Potential

Preterm Birth and Cycles of Poverty



The rate of preterm birth among Black women is

47%

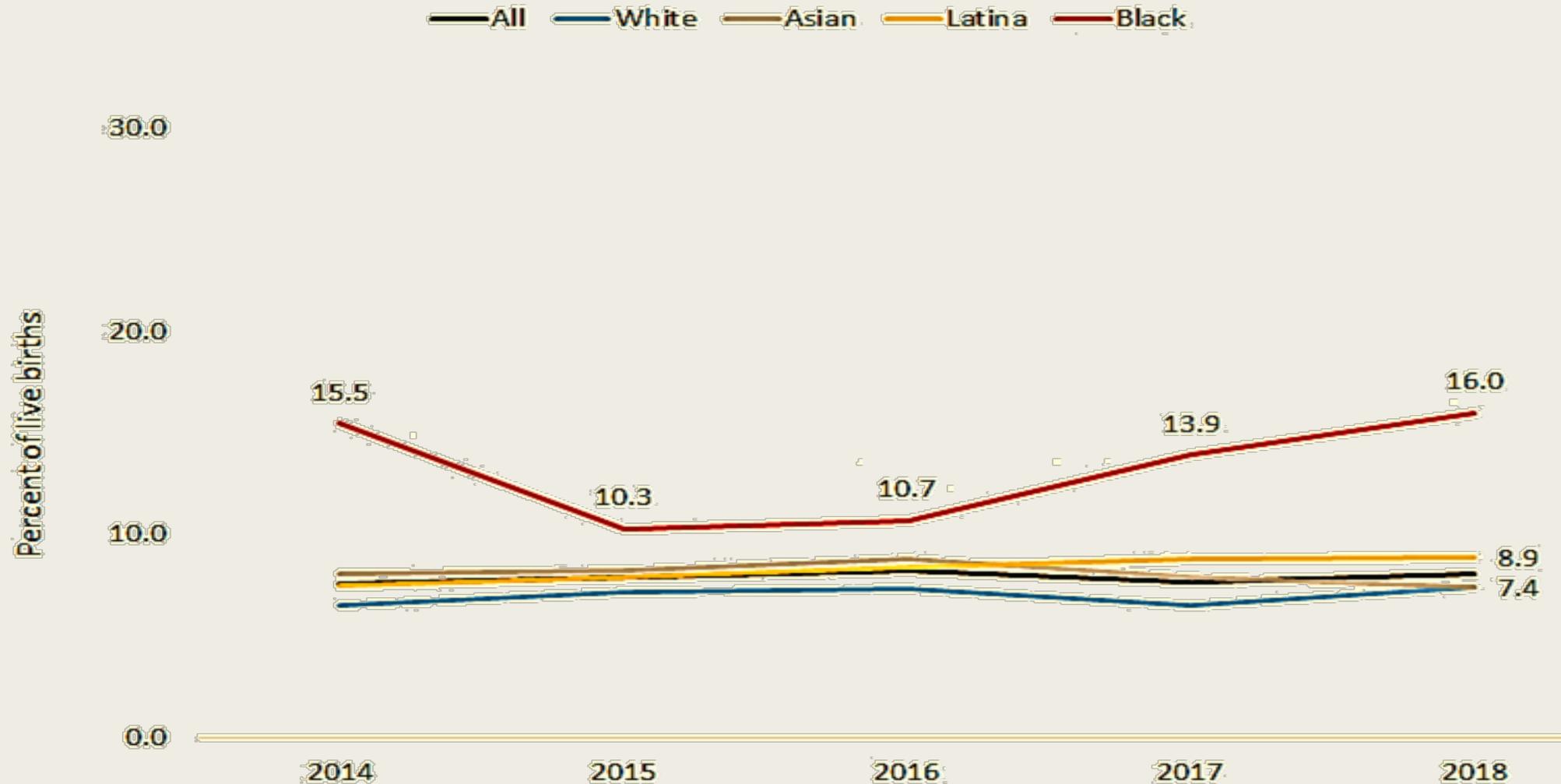
higher than the rate among all other women.



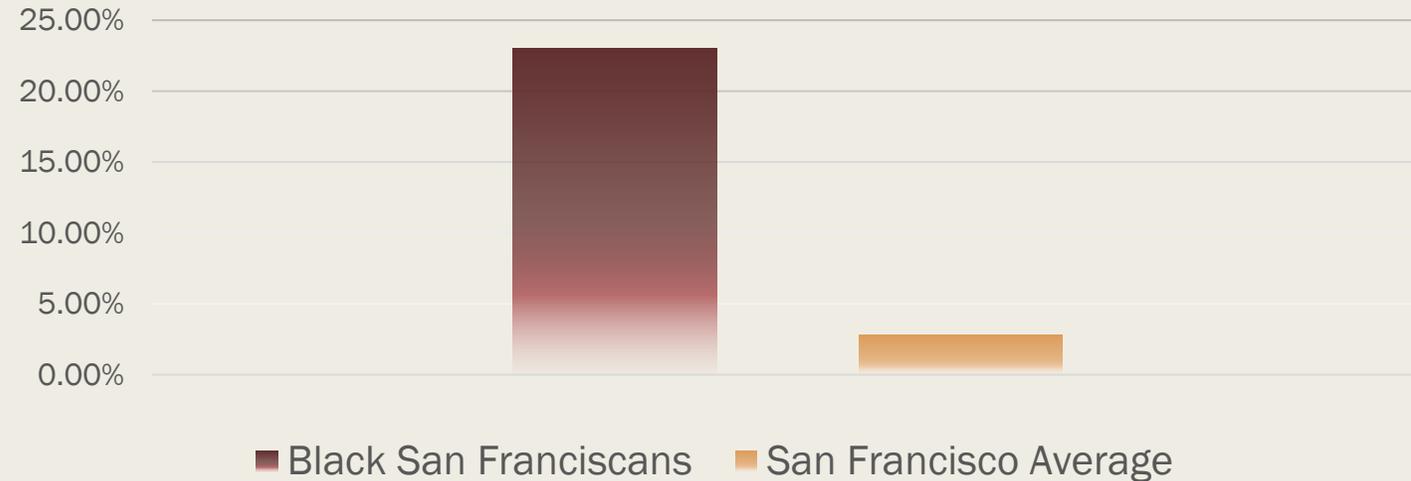
We must do more

Because it doesn't get better... *Unless we get better*

Percent of live births in San Francisco born before 37 weeks gestation,
2014-2018



HOMELESS OR DID NOT HAVE A PLACE TO SLEEP DURING PREGNANCY

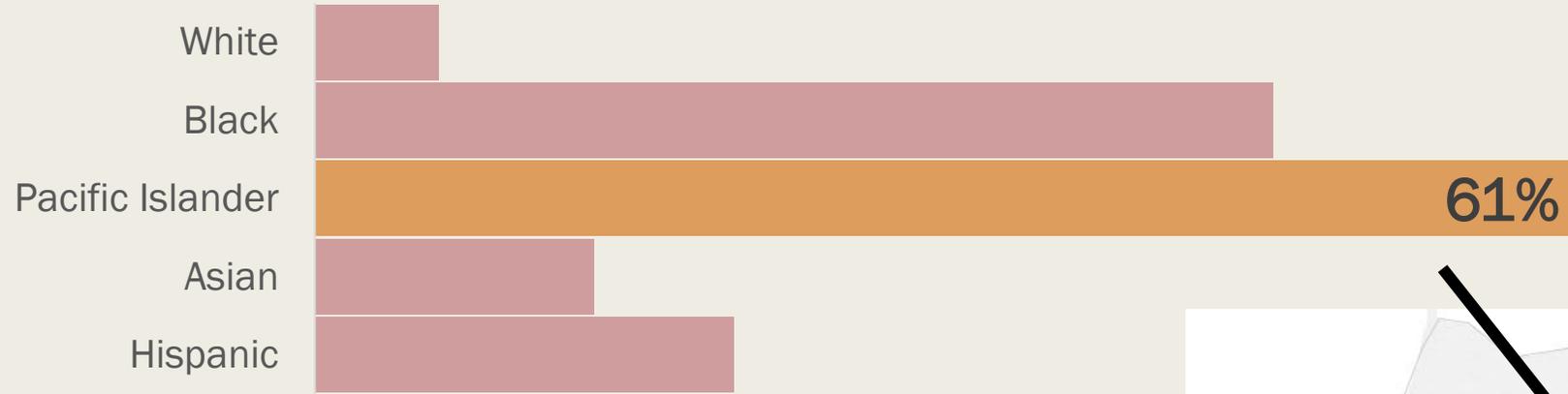


No safety net of wealth for many because of **urban renewal** and **redlining** and colonial exploitation of PI folks

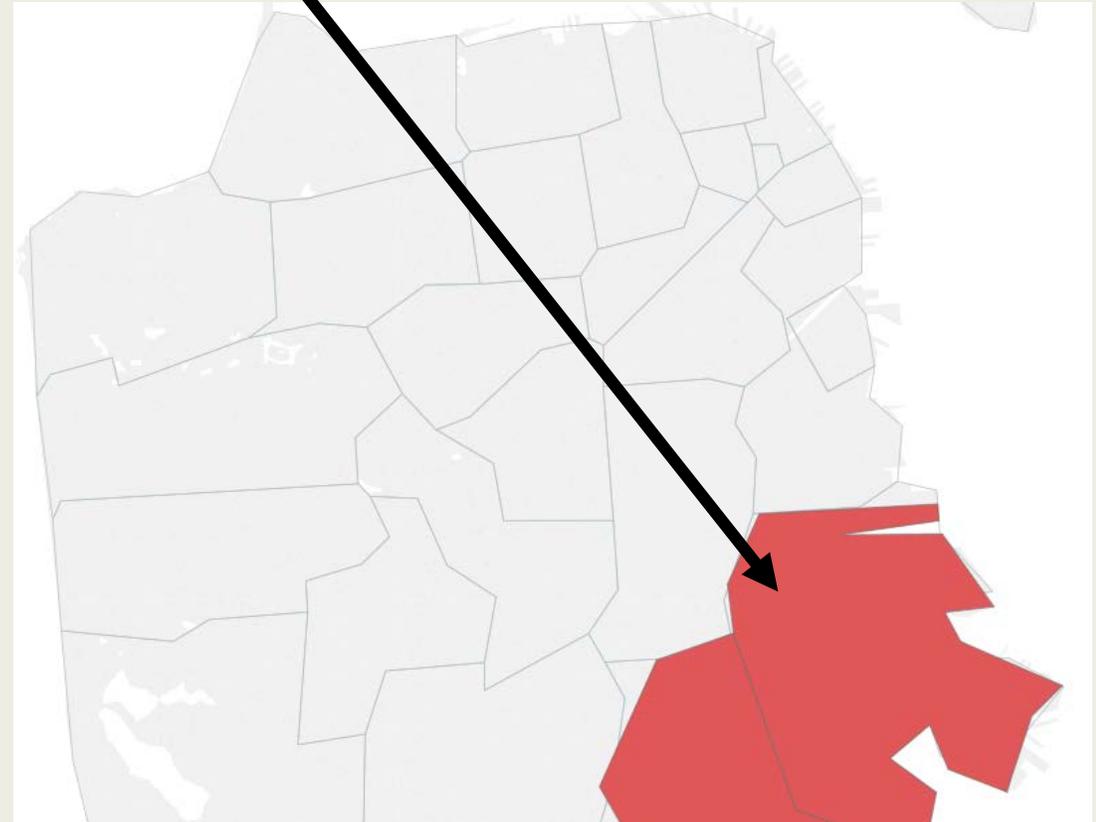


Source: MCAH Division Perinatal Equity Initiative, Maternal and Infant Health Indicators for San Francisco County. California Department of Public Health; 2019

Percentage of Mothers Living in a High Poverty Neighborhood in San Francisco



Pacific Islander mothers experiencing high rates of preterm birth mostly live in Bayview/Hunters Point

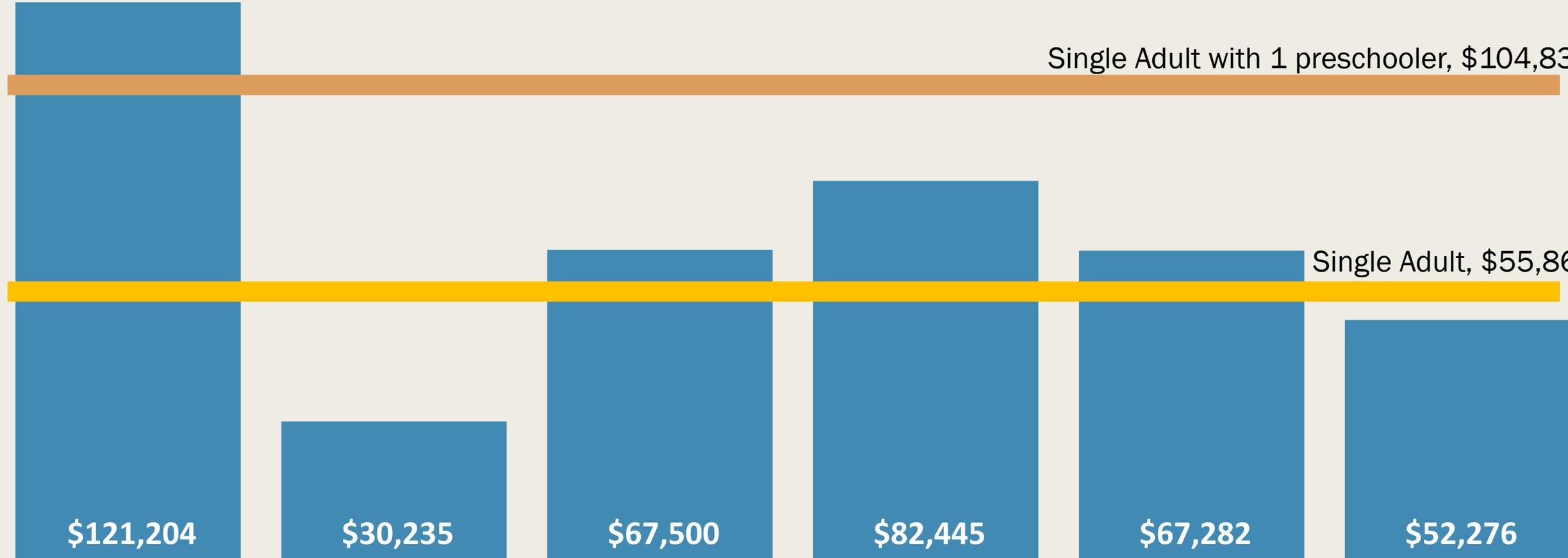


2013-2017 Median Family Income in San Francisco

2 Adults with 1 school-aged child and 1 preschooler, \$123,442

Single Adult with 1 preschooler, \$104,839

Single Adult, \$55,861



White only

Black/African American

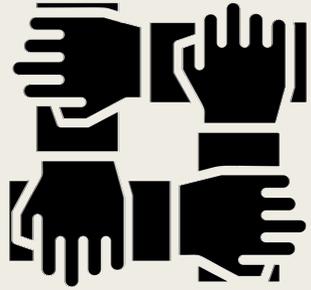
Native Hawaiian and other Pacific Islander

Asian

Hispanic/Latino

Native American and other

Source: US Census, American Community Survey; American FactFinder.
<https://factfinder.census.gov/faces/nav/jsf/pages/index.xhtml>



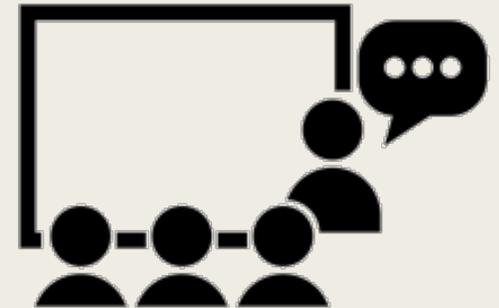
Multi-sector Citywide
Collaboration



Doula Access



Policy Work



Anti-Racism Skills-building



Pregnancy Income Supplement

THE ABUNDANT BIRTH PROJECT

- ◆ Provides \$1000/month of cash to 150 Black and PI pregnant people from early in pregnancy to 6 months post-partum
- ◆ Enrolling starting early 2021 over 2 years
- ◆ Alleviates stressors during pregnancy such as financial worry, food insecurity, housing insecurity, etc.
- ◆ The first pregnancy cash supplement in the US



Why cash? Why pregnancy?

Cash During
Pregnancy

Reduce stress

Reduced parent and child
exposure and vulnerability to
stressors

Ability to plan for
the future/ sense of
control

Improved:

- Housing security
- Food security
- Mental health
- Healthcare utilization
- Health behavior
- Sense of well being/dignity

Improve material
circumstances

Improved
maternal and
infant outcomes



Early study results have been promising

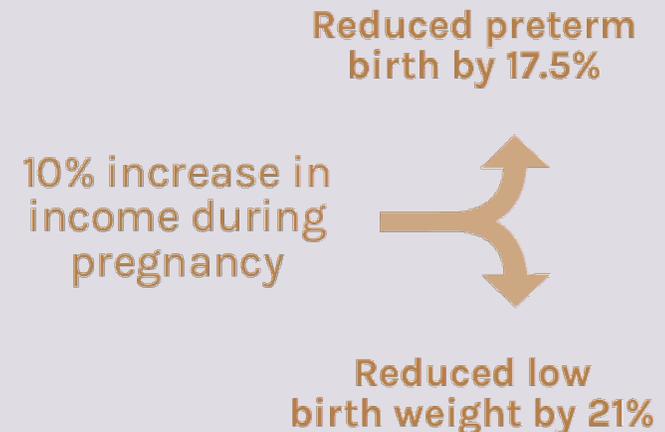
International evidence on cash transfers

- Increase birth weight
- Reduce perinatal, neonatal, and infant mortality

US evidence from EITC studies

- Increases in birthweight
- Improved self-reported maternal mental and physical health
- Decreased biomarkers of physical and mental stress
- Reductions in maternal smoking
- Improvements in nutrition

Manitoba Pregnancy Income Support



Fernald, Lia CH, Paul J. Gertler, and Lynnette M. Neufeld. "Role of cash in conditional cash transfer programmes for child health, growth, and development: an analysis of Mexico's Oportunidades." *The Lancet* 371.9615 (2008): 828-837.

Hoynes, Hilary, Doug Miller, and David Simon. "Income, the earned income tax credit, and infant health." *American Economic Journal: Economic Policy* 7.1 (2015): 172-211.

Wicks-Lim, J., & Arno, P. S. (2015). Improving population health by reducing poverty: New York's Earned Income Tax Credit (Working Paper No. 377). Political Economy Research Institute

Hamad, Rita, and David H. Rehkopf. "Poverty, pregnancy, and birth outcomes: a study of the Earned Income Tax Credit." *Paediatric and perinatal epidemiology* 29.5 (2015): 444-452.



Photo Credit: Chanda Williams

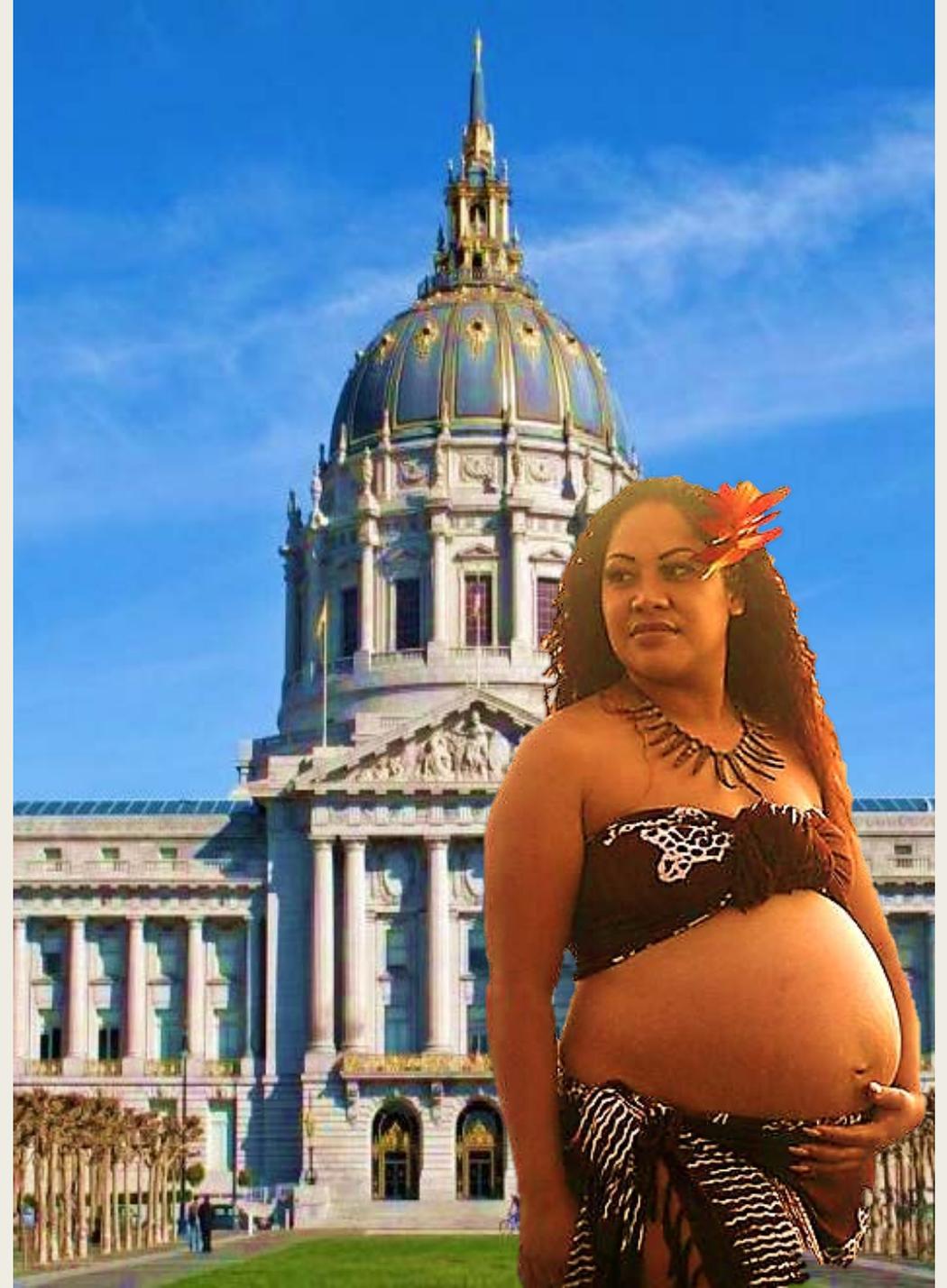
Abundant Birth Project

- **UCSF and UCB PIs lead the evaluation of health and financial outcomes**
 - **Maternal health outcomes**
 - **Financial outcomes**
 - **Wellbeing outcomes**



COLLABORATIVE PILOT DESIGN PROCESS

- Recruited and trained 4 community researchers
- Community Participatory Design Thinking Sprint





Breezy Powell



Maile Chand



Anjeanette Coats



Sabra Bell









Sabra Bell

Sabra Bell is connecting to audio





gives expecting mothers one less thing to worry about

Program aims to reduce Black, Pacific Islander preterm births with monthly payments, support

RYCE STOUGHTENBOROUGH / Sep. 24, 2020 9:15 a.m. / NEWS / THE CITY

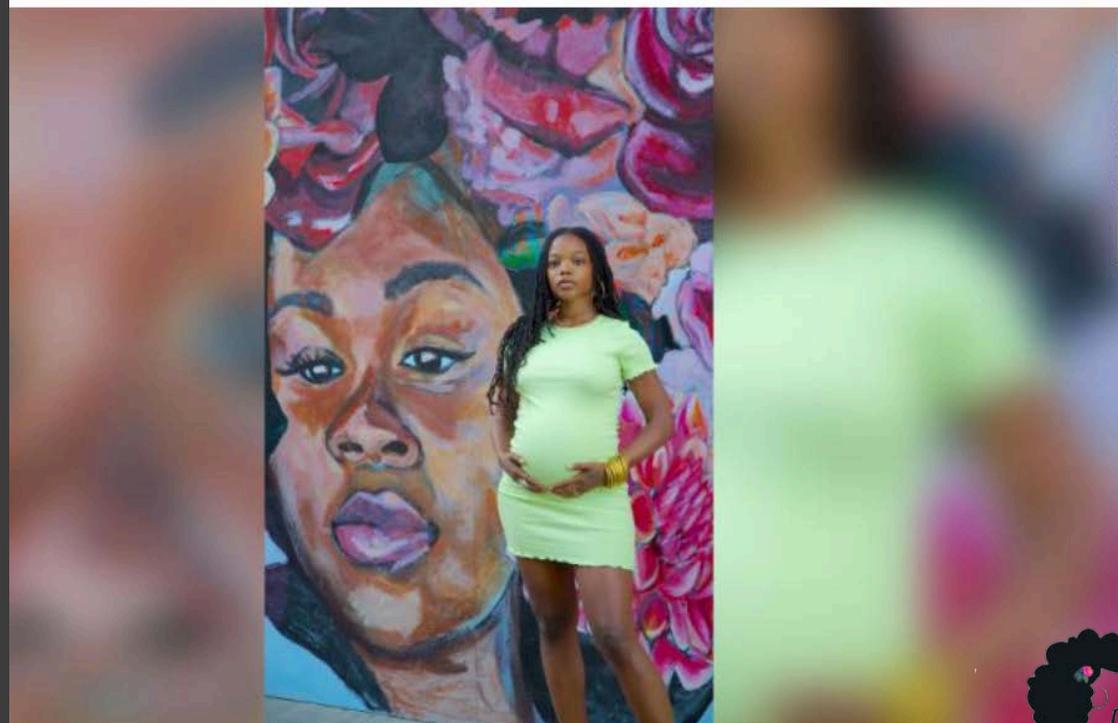


Breezy Powell is one of six children who

Lower-income pregnant Black and Pacific Islander women in San Francisco to get \$1,000 monthly

By Rachel Mitchell, CNN

Updated 1:14 PM ET, Mon September 21, 2020



COURTESY/DR. ZEE HAN/UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SAN FRANCISCO

More from CNN



Jeffrey Toole returns to New York after he exits Zoom call



World's tallest skyscraper in Singapore built in Malaysia



CLAS THE

is among the community researchers who recorded her peers' needs during pregnancy.



Cash is more than money



CONTROL OF DESTINY

Sense of purpose, ability to influence events that shape life's circumstances

DIGNITY

Sense of one's value, honor, and respect

BELONGING/ CONNECTEDNESS

Sense of acceptance and being part of a community

TRUST

Belief in the reliability, truth, ability, or strength of self and others

HOPE/ASPIRATION

Belief that something better is possible and achievable

SAFETY

Experience of security, possession of a sense of stability

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Photo Credit: Naja Lerus

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ACKNOWLEDGMENTS



None of our work is possible without our funders. We appreciate you

