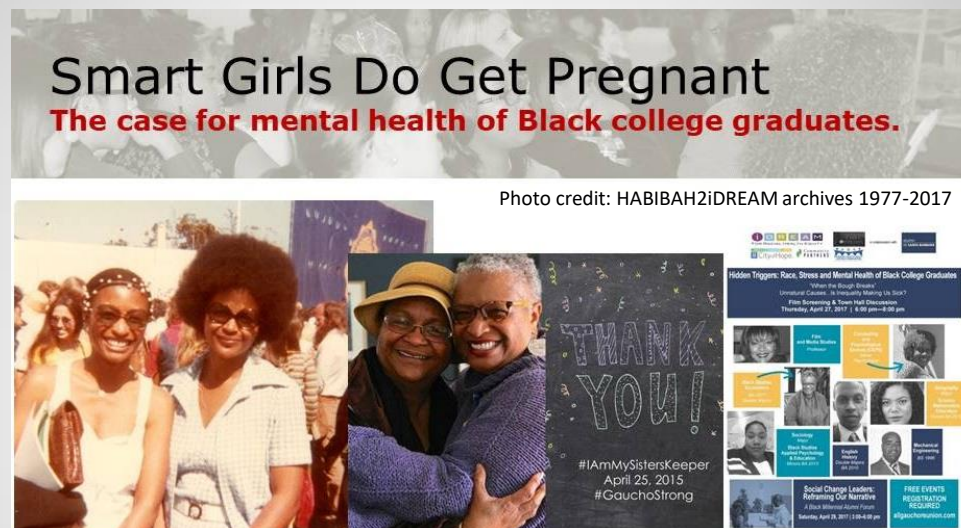




## When Our Experience Is the Outcome!

Photo credit: Belen Rediet, © June 2019, Cinna Moms Summit  
2012 March of Dimes Los Angeles Ambassador, Mika Williams & Family



## Smart Girls Do Get Pregnant The case for mental health of Black college graduates.

Photo credit: HABIBAH2iDREAM archives 1977-2017

## Making It Real: Closing the Black-White Gap for Infant Mortality (2017-2019) Through Data and Life Stories

March of Dimes California Birth Equity Summit  
Monday, November 18, 2019  
Wenonah Valentine, MBA, Moderator  
Updated November 22, 2019



## When Our Experience Is the Outcome!

Photo credit: Belen Rediet, © June 2019, Cinna Moms Summit  
2012 March of Dimes Los Angeles Ambassador, Mika Williams & Family



"We evolved as an **unapologetic** champion for Black college graduates focused on training, leadership and advocacy."

iDREAM for Racial Health Equity

Jessica Reed, MBAHA, LVN  
Resident: SPA 2 – San Fernando Valley

Permission: Jessica Reed







## When Our Experience Is the Outcome!

Photo credit: Belen Rediet, © June 2019, Cinna Moms Summit  
2012 March of Dimes Los Angeles Ambassador, Mika Williams & Family

"Thank you for providing a safe space to be vulnerable and transparent. It was difficult reflecting on my birth story while acknowledging and honoring so many Black women who will never experience their babies grow up and thrive. So many Black mothers who did not have the opportunity to live past childbirth. How can these injustices continue to persist? Now more than ever, I will continue to fight, advocate, support, and love for those moms and babies who are no longer in the physical world and for my fellow moms, those desiring to be parents, and future generations. The time is now! We are the ones we've been waiting for."

Via Email, November 21, 2019



Kacie Blackman, PhD  
**COMMUNITY SUPPORT**  
Resident, SPA 2 - San Fernando Valley

Permission: Kacie Blackman



## When Our Experience Is the Outcome!

Photo credit: Belen Rediet, © June 2019, Cinna Moms Summit  
2012 March of Dimes Los Angeles Ambassador, Mika Williams & Family

"I feel blessed and honored to have been apart of the mothers panel. To be in a safe space and be able to tell my story and speak my truth was refreshing and necessary. Thank you for the opportunity." Via email, November 22, 2019



Shamiesha Ebhotemen, BSN '20, RN, CLE  
**FAMILY SUPPORT**  
Resident: Anaheim



Permission: Shamiesha Ebhotemen  
Photo credit: Jacqueline Smith Photography, © August 2019  
Chocolate Milk: The Documentary Screenings



## When Our Experience Is the Outcome!

Photo credit: Belen Rediet, © June 2019, Cinna Moms Summit  
2012 March of Dimes Los Angeles Ambassador/ Mika Williams & Family



"It was wonderful meeting you... Thank you for your stewardship and guidance throughout these past weeks. It was quite a memorable and moving experience to share my story and hear the stories of the 3 of you. Looking forward to keeping in touch." Via Email November 21, 2019

Stella Clingmon Simon, MPH  
**PROVIDER SUPPORT**  
Resident, SPA 3 – San Gabriel Valley

Permission: Stella Clingmon Simon





## When Our Experience Is the Outcome!

Photo credit: Belen Rediet, © June 2019, Cinna Moms Summit  
2012 March of Dimes Los Angeles Ambassador, Mika Williams & Family



Wenonah Valentine, MBA  
**ENVIRONMENTAL SUPPORT**  
Resident, SPA 6 – South Los Angeles

Photo permission with Ashlee Roberson, 4<sup>th</sup>-year medical student, USC Keck School of Medicine, 38<sup>th</sup> Annual Gala, Association of Black Women Physicians

"As Millennial and Generation Z women join the workforce, our privileged insights to *"serve our sisters"* honors the promise to build a culture of health. Our intergenerational stories are connected by helping Black women embrace the life course and learn to live by taking back our power with self-care; unmuting our voices and speaking up; and making good health a priority for ourselves, our families and our communities. It is here where we begin to address health in all policy initiatives.

There is a disturbing trend that Black women are not the messengers for improving Black maternal health and birthing experiences. We are reminded that Black women fight every day. We fight to conceive. We fight to bring new life full term. We fight to pump breast milk with dignity on our jobs. We fight for funding. We fight. We fight. We fight. The weathering effect of stress is OUR story. We are asking better questions. We are holding the necessary space to heal and thrive where we live, work, play, eat, volunteer, worship and go to school.

The iDREAM storied mission for mothers and babies since 1994 has earned our power, passion and proof. The evidence of our courage and lived experiences possess an untapped resource." Excerpt from We Fight. We Fight. We Fight. ©2019 Race Relay Entry by Wenonah Valentine, MBA, USC Vision and Voices Initiative

