

## **Strategy:** **Reduce the burden of and** **disrupt lifelong economic** **insecurity**



The Mom and Baby Action Network is building cross-sector partnerships that invest in, influence and leverage collective action to lead broad changes in policy, research, funding and systems to address the root causes of inequities in maternal and infant health. Our common agenda includes five overarching strategies, with several solutions contained within each strategy.

Conditions in which people are born, grow, live, work and age, including education, housing and neighborhood environment, economic stability, and access to quality health care can have a profound impact on health outcomes throughout one's life course. Poverty often limits access to stable safe housing, healthy foods, and good jobs which have a direct impact on health outcomes.

Research has shown a direct link between economic insecurity and poor outcomes, including low-birthweight, psychosocial issues, malnutrition, and low educational attainment. Poverty is also closely linked to infectious disease spread, as demonstrated by the COVID-19 pandemic.

## **Work Group Focus**

Advocate for funding, policies, and programs that increase access to quality education, safe & affordable housing, childcare, food security, paid medical and family leave. Additional work will focus on supporting community health worker and doula workforce development programs.

## **Solutions Overview**

This non-exhaustive list demonstrate the types of solutions that national, state, and local stakeholders may choose to pursue in partnership with the Mom and Baby Action Network.

- **Policy & Legislative Change**
  - *Increase equitable access to safe, affordable, quality housing.*
  - *Increase equitable investments in primary and secondary education*
  - *Expand access to paid medical and family leave.*
- **System & Institutional Change**
  - *Perform regular pay equity audits within organizations and government agencies.*
  - *Replicate and scale supportive family housing programs such as Creating Moves to Opportunity and Healthy Start in Housing.*
- **Programs & Training**
  - *Expand programs that help create sustainable and equitable first-time home ownership.*
  - *Expand state programs that provide free college tuition to students meeting income or eligibility thresholds.*
- **Research & Data**
  - *Explore best practices in workforce development programs and policies.*
  - *Examine prevalence, incidence, and complexity of homelessness and housing instability among birthing people of reproductive ages.*