

## **Strategy:** **Increase access to high-quality & high-value, risk appropriate, integrated health care**



**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.**

This strategy focuses on curbing the rising and inequitable preterm birth, maternal morbidity & mortality rates, by addressing the quality, value, and access gaps that currently exist in the U.S. health care system.

In the last decade, the number of obstetric providers and facilities with risk appropriate care have been on the decline, making it harder to access quality appropriate care before and after pregnancy, especially in rural and select urban areas. Solutions in this strategy also focus on increasing the racial diversity of the maternity care provider workforce, training on stigma and implicit bias, and implementing programs that focus on improving quality care and healthy outcomes.

### **Work Group Focus**

Advocate for policies to increase equitable access to risk appropriate birthing options, especially in maternity care deserts. Support programs that aim to increase diversity in the health care workforce. Identify and develop best practices for stigma and implicit bias training.

## **Solutions Overview**

The non-exhaustive list below demonstrates 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**
  - *Remove system barriers preventing the full scope of qualified health care providers to deliver high-quality, high-value obstetrical and gynecological care.*
  - *Support the establishment and sustainability of midwifery-led birth centers.*
- **System & Institutional Change**
  - *Create and/or improve coordinated intake and referrals across services to ease utilization by birthing people.*
  - *Expand mobile medical care in medically under-resourced geographies.*
  - *Increase access to self-monitoring blood pressure cuffs to support early detection of pregnancy-related hypertensive disorders.*
- **Communication & Training**
  - *Implement and spread resources and procedures for safe and respectful care.*
  - *Provide implicit bias and anti-racism training to obstetrical care providers and frontline staff.*
- **Research & Data**
  - *Use modeling to identify the most appropriate community and clinical interventions to reduce the risk of preterm birth and maternal health risks.*