



Supporting Pregnant Women

READY, SET 
SOAR OHIO

Early Investments, A Lifetime of Success.

in partnership with



A pregnant woman's zip code and race too often determine whether or not she will have a healthy pregnancy and, ultimately, a healthy child.

To ensure that children are born healthy and continue to grow healthy, investing in and supporting pregnant mothers when it matters the most—early in their pregnancy through the baby's first year of life—is key to reducing infant and maternal mortality and ensuring that all mothers and infants have a healthy start. Unfortunately, Black pregnant women and their babies are more at-risk of maternal and infant mortality than their white peers due to the systemic racism and the disproportionate impact poverty has on their health and well-being.

In 2010, when infant mortality rates were on the rise in Columbus, Ohio, Moms2B formed with a mission to reduce infant mortality in the city by providing pregnant mothers nutrition support and guidance throughout their pregnancy. Each week, Moms2B would convene a group of mothers to meet with one another in one of Columbus' high-risk zip codes (Weinland Park) to provide them with education on pregnancy health and nutrition. Since its inception, Moms2B has listened to and adapted its program to fit the needs of pregnant women to ensure more babies reach their first birthday and beyond.

Currently, Moms2B meets weekly in each of the neighborhoods where babies are at highest risk for infant mortality in Columbus. In the fall of 2020, Moms2B also expanded their program into Montgomery County to help combat the disproportionate rates of infant mortality the county is currently experiencing. Pregnant mothers can participate in these meetings throughout their pregnancy and after birth up until their child reaches their first birthday. Moms2B works closely with many community partners in the region to overcome the gaps and barriers many mothers face. During these weekly sessions, mothers are able to:

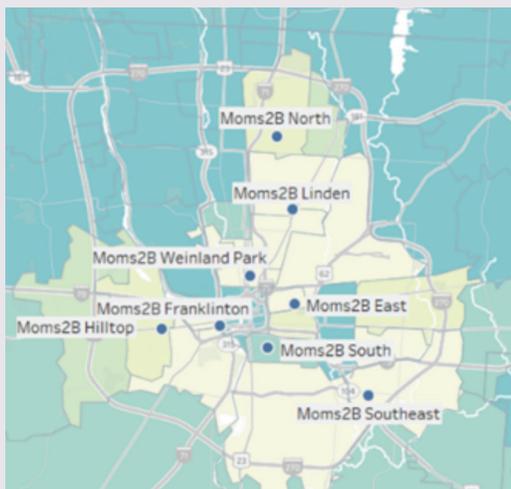
- Learn how to have a healthy pregnancy and relationship with their newborn child
- Share their pregnancy experience and receive emotional support from other pregnant mothers in the group
- Receive guidance and support on how to breastfeed
- Learn how to achieve healthy birth spacing
- Consult with on-site medical professionals such as OBGYN doctors and nurses
- Connect to resources such as food, diapers, safe housing, lawyers, and transportation assistance
- Learn what early childhood development is and how to support their child's healthy development

Black women in Ohio are nearly 3x more likely to die than white women due to pregnancy complications.¹

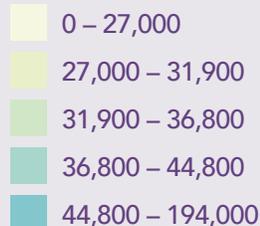
Ohio's Black babies are more than 2.5x more likely to die before their first birthday compared to white babies.²

Ohio's preterm birth rate is 48% higher for Black women than it is for all other women.³

Moms2B Meeting Locations:



2018 Per Capita Income



[Click Here for Details of All Locations >](#)



What the Moms2B Data Tell Us:



The infant mortality rate in Franklin County has improved

↓ from 9.6% in 2011 to 6.9% in 2019.



More than 2,500 pregnant women have attended

★ at least ONE Moms2B session.

Women attending Moms2B sessions reduced their risk of a preterm birth by 14% and a low-birth weight baby by 21%



During the pandemic, Moms2B has served

★ 350 families virtually.



Women attending Moms2B had

↓ 55% fewer infant deaths than a comparison group.

Learn more about Moms2B at: <https://bit.ly/38DcPe4>

Data sources:

1. Ohio Department of Health, *A Report on Pregnancy-Associated Deaths in Ohio 2008-2016*. (November 2019)
2. Ohio Department of Health, *2018 Infant Mortality Annual Report*. (December 2020)
3. March of Dimes, *2020 March of Dimes Report Card, Ohio*. (December 2020)
4. Hade, E.M., Lynch, C.D., Benedict, J.A. et al., *The Association of Moms2B, a Community-Based Interdisciplinary Intervention Program, and Pregnancy and Infant Outcomes among Women Residing in Neighborhoods with a High Rate of Infant Mortality*. (January 2021)