

Systems Change Approaches to Local Maternal Health Barriers

San Antonio Metropolitan Health District
Sian Elmore, MA

Systems Change Approaches to Local Maternal Health Barriers

Center for Policy & Health Improvement:

Composed of three offices established in 2025 as part of Metro Health's SA Forward strategic plan to address gaps identified during COVID.

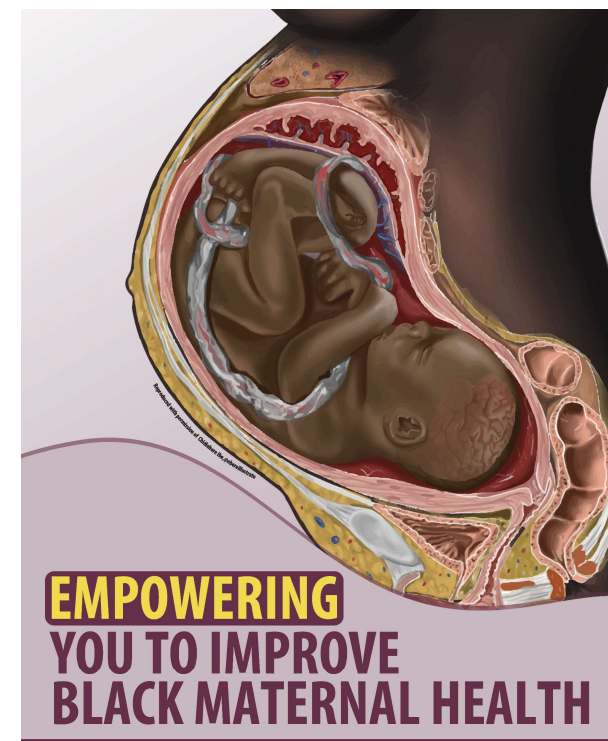
- Access to Care Office
- Policy & Civic Engagement Office
- Health Equity Office

Priority Area: Black Maternal & Mental Health

Approaches:

- Black Maternal Health
- Community Alliance for Results in Equity
- Reproductive Justice Fund
- Community Health Improvement Plan

Black Maternal Health Campaign



CARE is a collaborative effort to create an equity-focused systems change within maternal and mental health medical facilities in San Antonio, TX.

Process:

1. CARE Assessment (pre-test)
2. Intervention
 1. Policy & training recommendations
 2. Resources
 3. Technical assistance
3. CARE Assessment (post-test)
4. Placement on CARE online platform
5. Ongoing patient feedback through platform

Core Working Group

- 1 Doula
- 2 Nurse Practitioners
- 2 Community Members
- 1 Licensed Professional Counselor
- 1 Nurse Midwife
- 1 Researcher (PhD)
- 3 Registered Nurses
- 4 Organizations
 - Metro Health
 - YWCA San Antonio
 - Black Book Sex Ed
 - disABILITYsa

Sample Virtual Page



Clinic Name
Clinic Specialty
Location
Hours

Patient
Surveys: ★★★★★



Clinic Information



All clinic staff complete a racial equity training within 3 months of hire

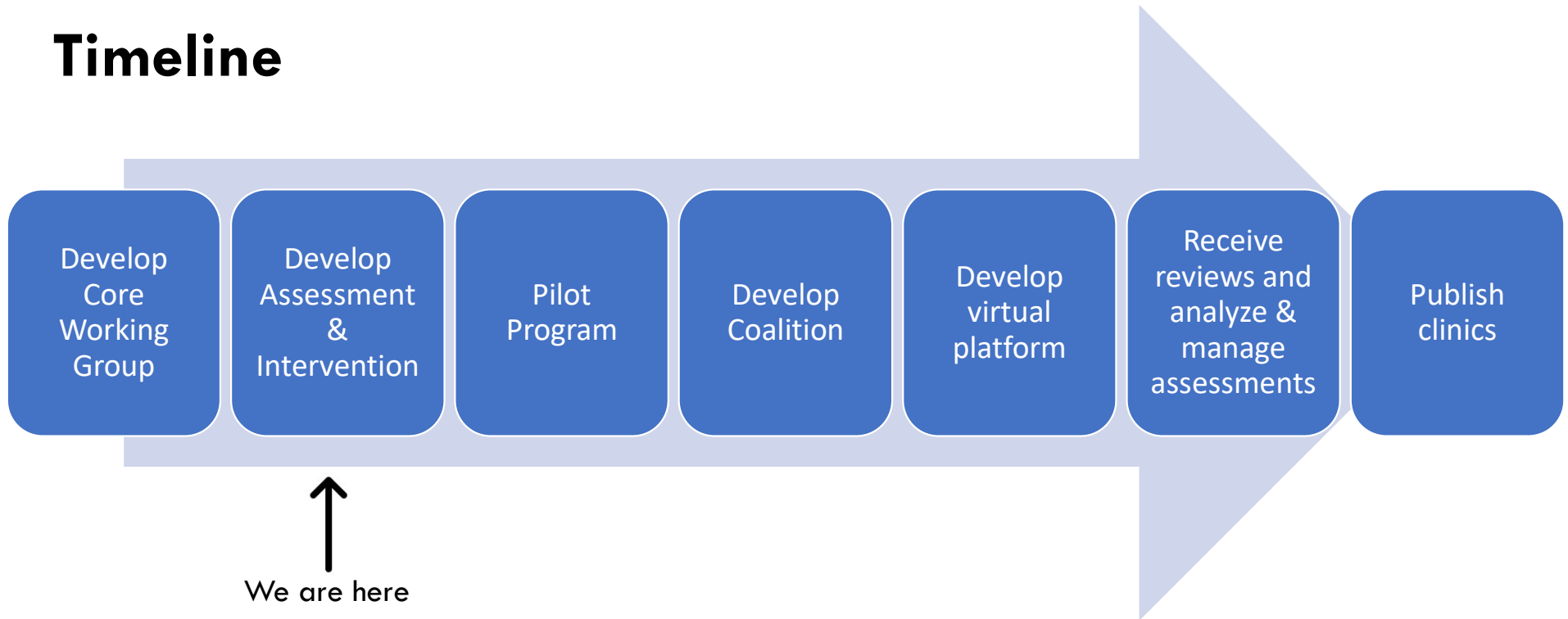


Clinic has met CARE accessibility standards including the availability of a language line, adjustable examination tables, adult changing tables, and completion of the Disability-Friendly Provider course



Clinic offers a financial assistance program

Timeline



Reproductive Justice Fund

In response to the changing reproductive rights landscape in Texas, the San Antonio City Council developed the Reproductive Justice Fund to address downstream, midstream, and upstream barriers to reproductive and sexual health services.

\$500,000 was awarded to four agencies dedicated to maternal and family health

YWCA San Antonio – Empower House – San Antonio AIDS Foundation – Latched Support Inc

Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP)

The CHIP is the community-wide, collaborative blueprint developed to tackle public health priorities in Bexar County, which encompasses San Antonio.

Priority Areas:

- Behavior and Mental Wellbeing
- Food Security
- Housing Stability
- **Prenatal Care**

The Center will serve as backbone support for agencies that align with the CHIP strategies.

Key Implementation Strategies:

- Strengthen access to prenatal care
- Expand maternal mental health services
- Improve nutrition & health education
- Address key drivers of health
- Create community incentive programs

Contact

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Please take this survey to evaluate conference sessions.



THANK YOU