



Generate Health 2024 Advocacy Agenda

Generate Health builds collective power to advocate for racially equitable policies and practices that center, support and celebrate Black families throughout their pregnancy and parenthood journeys.

In St. Louis, Black birthing people and babies are dying at a higher rate than any other race. This pattern isn't caused by individual choices or behaviors – it's due to the long history of racist structures and policies that have shaped our region. Generate Health's vision is zero racial disparities in infant and maternal mortality by 2033. To achieve this, we are mobilizing our coalition of partners, providers, and community leaders to transform St. Louis' health care and social support systems so that Black women and birthing people experience their desired pregnancy and birth outcomes. We envision a future where Black families are supported by our entire community and pregnancy, birth and parenthood are a time of joy and celebration.

We participate in advocacy efforts in a variety of ways:

We **drive** advocacy by centering community voice and participation in decision making, determining strategies, and bringing stakeholders together around shared issues.

We **support** advocacy by participating in local and state coalitions and bringing community members with lived experience and partner expertise to the process.

We **monitor** issues by tracking policy developments, speaking out for or against issues impacting maternal and child health, or moving up in action if needed.

Advocacy Agenda Priority #1:

Promote racial equity among social, economic and structural factors that affect health in families and communities through:

- Supporting improved economic conditions such as livable wages, asset development, and paid family leave policy
- Supporting reliable, affordable transportation especially for Medicaid recipients and other low-income families
- Supporting affordable, safe housing

- Supporting access to affordable transportation
- Supporting efforts to improve access to affordable, high-quality childcare
- Supporting efforts to improve access to affordable, healthy, and nutritious food no matter where one lives

Advocacy Agenda Priority #2:

Promote racial equity in maternal health and decrease maternal mortality through:

- Driving policies to improve access to affordable and equitable healthcare before, during, between, and after pregnancies, including implementation of Medicaid expansion and renewal
- Driving coordination among maternal health providers for intake and referral, shared measurement, and training and efficacy
- Driving culturally affirming, trauma-informed services through home visitation
- Driving coordination among programs that address behavioral health treatment for substance use, mental health, and perinatal mood and anxiety disorders
- Supporting reimbursement for quality, culturally affirming care and services for community health workers, doulas, and birth workers
- Supporting access to the full spectrum of reproductive health care and preventive care

Advocacy Agenda Priority #3:

Promote racial equity in infant health and decrease infant mortality through:

- Driving policies that improve access to affordable and equitable healthcare for infants during birth and beyond
- Driving advocacy about safe sleep practices
- Driving coordination among infant health providers for intake and referral, shared measurement, and training and efficacy
- Driving culturally affirming, trauma-informed services through home visitation
- Supporting reimbursement for quality, culturally affirming care and services for community health workers, doulas, and birth workers

Advocacy Agenda Priority #4:

Promote access to equitable healthcare through:

- Driving the broadening of equitable decision-making tables to ensure the role of community with lived experience is integrated into governance structures
- Driving the development of provider capacity to decrease implicit bias and racism and to build trust through trauma awareness and cultural humility in care delivery
- Supporting the implementation of Medicaid expansion and renewal in Missouri, including faster and easier Medicaid enrollment and restoring Medicaid and CHIP for adults and children who have been disenrolled or lost coverage