

# Resolution No. 469-2025

By Council Member Howse-Jones

## AN EMERGENCY RESOLUTION

Recognizing National Black Maternal Health Week April 11 - April 17, 2025, and declaring this week Black Maternal Health Week in the City of Cleveland; and honoring the efforts of Black-led organizations driving systemic change in maternal health, and committing to supporting initiatives that promote equity, healing, and thriving communities.

WHEREAS, Black Maternal Health Week is a national week of action held each year that aims to raise awareness around racial inequities in maternal health outcomes in the United States; and

WHEREAS, Black Maternal Health Week 2025 (BMHW25) is April 11-17, 2025, and embraces the theme “Healing Legacies: Strengthening Black Maternal Health Through Collective Action and Advocacy,” highlighting the leadership and impact of Black-led perinatal, maternal, and reproductive health organizations in driving systemic change and fostering community healing; and

WHEREAS, this theme acknowledges the persistent legacies of systemic oppression, reproductive injustices, and health inequities that have disproportionately impacted Black mothers, families, and individuals, emphasizing the importance of healing at both the individual and community levels while promoting restorative approaches to maternal health care; and

WHEREAS, BMHW25 celebrates the leadership and expertise of Black community-based organizations as pivotal drivers for advancing equity and ensuring sustainable improvements in maternal health outcomes, underscoring the role of collective action and collaboration among Black-led organizations, advocates, and communities to amplify solutions, shape policies, and lead advocacy efforts; and

WHEREAS, the City of Cleveland recognizes the work of Birthing Beautiful Communities, Pregnant with Possibilities, and Village of Healing as proven leaders in advancing equity and transformative maternal health improvements within our community; and

WHEREAS, the City of Cleveland encourages residents to participate in Black Maternal Health Week activities to connect with and learn about the lifesaving work being done by these organizations to ensure healthier futures for Black mothers, families, and communities;

WHEREAS, this resolution constitutes an emergency measure for the immediate preservation of public peace, property, health or safety, now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CLEVELAND:

Section 1. That the City of Cleveland joins the national celebration of Black Maternal Health Week 2025 on April 11 - April 17, 2025; declares this week Black Maternal Health Week in the City of Cleveland; honors the efforts of Black-led organizations driving systemic change in maternal health; and commits to supporting initiatives that promote equity, healing, and thriving communities.

Section 2. That this resolution is hereby declared to be an emergency measure and, provided it receives the affirmative vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to Council, it shall take effect and be in force immediately upon its adoption and approval by the Mayor; otherwise it shall take effect and be in force from and after the earliest period allowed by law.

/jho  
4/7/2025  
For: Councilmember Howse-Jones

