

**Executive Summary
Merrick House**

Background/Purpose:

Authorizing the Director of Public Health to enter into one or more contracts with Merrick House to provide MomsFirst services to women at risk of poor birth outcomes.

MomsFirst is a program designed to reduce disparities in infant mortality in the City of Cleveland utilizing three approaches: 1) improve women's health, 2) improve family health and wellness, and promote systems change. All high-risk pregnant women located on the west side in the City of Cleveland are eligible for enrollment into the Merrick House program.

The term for this contract is for one year, beginning January 1, 2023 and ending December 31, 2023.

Goals:

- Reduce infant deaths, low birth weight and very low birth weight births among program participants
- Improve access to quality health care and services
- Build healthy communities
- Improve health equity

Accomplishments:

- MomsFirst has been successful in decreasing infant mortality by taking a leadership role in creating an integrated support system for pregnant and parenting women and their families.
- MomsFirst Community Health Workers served 898 participants and their families in 2021
- Merrick House provides MomsFirst services to Cleveland's entire west side.
- General Funds support the salaries of 3 Community Health Workers and 2 Case Managers.

Contract Amount: \$266,864 and any additional funding that becomes available

Funding Source: 2023 General Fund

MERRICK HOUSE BUDGET

January 1, 2023- December 31, 2023

Merrick House \$266,864.00

Merrick House will provide MomsFirst services to the entire west side of Cleveland, maintaining a minimum caseload capacity of 127 pregnant and parenting women. These families are followed until the child reaches 18 months. Three Community Health Workers conduct outreach and home visiting to enrolled families providing health education, screening and referral.

TOTAL: \$266,864.00