

Executive Summary
MomsFirst

Background/Purpose:

Authorizing the Director of Public Health to enter into one or more contracts with various agencies including Merrick House, Friendly Inn Settlement House, West Side Community House, Lexington Bell Community Center, Birthing Beautiful Communities, MetroHealth, Transparency Project (Fatherhood), Case Western Reserve University and others 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 3) promote systems change. All high-risk pregnant women located in the City of Cleveland are eligible for enrollment into the MomsFirst program.

The term for these contracts is for one year, beginning January 1, 2026, and ending December 31, 2026.

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 677 participants and their families in 2023.
- provides MomsFirst services to City of Cleveland residents.
- General Funds support salaries of a minimum of 4 Community Health Workers and a minimum of 3 Case Managers, as well as a portion of the project evaluation, and supplemental services.

Contract Amount: \$435,464

Funding Source: 2026 General Fund

