

October 21, 2025

The Honorable Susan Collins
Chairwoman
Committee on Appropriations
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Patty Murray
Vice Chair
Committee on Appropriations
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Shelley Moore Capito
Chairwoman
Labor, Health and Human Services,
Education and Related Agencies
Appropriations Subcommittee
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Tammy Baldwin
Ranking Member
Labor, Health and Human Services,
Education, and Related Agencies
Appropriations Subcommittee
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairwoman Collins, Vice Chair Murray, Subcommittee Chairwoman Capito, and Subcommittee Ranking Member Baldwin:

On behalf of the **132** undersigned national, regional and local organizations in the maternal, child, and mental health space who support the health and wellbeing of pregnant and new mothers, we thank you for including \$12 million for the Screening and Treatment for Maternal Mental Health and Substance Use Disorder State Grant Program (HRSA State Grant), \$8 million for the Maternal Mental Health Hotline, and report language to help mothers in tribal communities and our brave servicewomen within your FY 2026 LHHS package. Your leadership preserves and protects life-saving maternal mental health resources and improves perinatal psychiatric access for millions of women suffering from maternal mental health conditions nationwide.

While we applaud and sincerely appreciate the increased funding for both programs, **we respectfully request that you match the \$13.5 million funding level included in the House Appropriations Committee-passed package for Screening and Treatment for Maternal Mental Health and Substance Use Disorders state grant program.** Two-thirds of states have sought HRSA State grant funds, but only one-fourth received funding. The additional \$1.5 million would fund at least two new states or tribal communities to expand maternal mental health screening and treatment for pregnant and new mothers in need.

Recently, the CDC using data from maternal mortality review committees, found that 22.5% of pregnancy-related deaths were attributed to underlying mental health conditions, including depression, anxiety, bipolar and other mental health conditions, and most notably, substance use disorder, which was responsible for 63.3% of mental-health-attributed pregnancy-related deaths in 2021.¹ This data reaffirms the urgency in addressing our nation's maternal mortality rate and the need to ensure all mothers have access to the maternal mental health resources they so desperately need.

On behalf of the 4 million mothers who give birth in the United States every year, we thank you for your continuous support for mothers and attention to this critical matter.

¹ CDC. (2025, August 28). *Pregnancy-Related Deaths: Data from Maternal Mortality Review Committees*. Maternal Mortality Prevention. <https://www.cdc.gov/maternal-mortality/php/data-research/mmrc/index.html>

Sincerely,

Maternal Mental Health Leadership Alliance (MMHLA)
4th Trimester
Aaliyah in Action
Alaska Birth Collective
American Academy of Nursing
American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists
American Psychiatric Association
Anchor Perinatal Wellness
Arkansas Maternal Coalition
Association of Maternal & Child Health Programs
Baltic Street Wellness Solutions
Baobab Birth Collective
Bay State Birth Coalition
Beyond the Baby Blues
Birthing Layers Doula Services LLC
blm nh
Bright Birthing
Buffalo Prenatal Perinatal Network
Building Military Families Network
Caribbean Equality Project (CEP)
Center for Law and Social Policy (CLASP)
Center for Postpartum Family Health
Central Carolina Doulas
Chamber of Mothers
ChildStrive
Cincy Postpartum
Concert Health
Connecticut Maternal and Child Health Coalition
Counseling & Wellness Collective
Crawford County Health Department
Diversity Uplifts, Inc.
Division for Early Childhood of the Council for Exceptional Children (DEC)
Doulas Empowering Community
Doulas Latinas International
Eating Disorders Coalition for Research, Policy & Action
Embrace Foundation
Empty Arms Vermont
Every Mother Counts
EveryMom Chicago
EveryStep
Family Support Network of Central Carolina
First Focus Campaign for Children
Flourish Wellness Collective
GRACE Leadership Foundation Inc.

Grey Area Therapy Jax
Growing Glory Doula Services LLC
H.E.R. Institute
Head/Heart Therapy, Inc.
HEALHER Devine Soul Inc.
Healthy Mothers, Healthy Babies - The MT Coalition
HealthyWomen
ICU baby
In Kind Boxes
Ingram Screening, LLC
League of Women Voters Metropolitan Des Moines
Legal Action Center
Legal Momentum, The Women's Legal Defense and Education Fund
Let Mommy Sleep Franchising
Lifeline for Families Center
Lifeline for Moms Program
Lily's Hope Foundation
Love for Lily
Mainline Maternity Care
Mamaya Care LLC
March of Dimes
Mass. PPD Fund
Maternal Mental Health NOW
Mavida Health
MCPAP for Moms
Mendocino Coast Doulas
Michigan Council for Maternal Child Health
Mission: Motherhood
Missouri Perinatal Quality Collaborative
Moms Mental Health Initiative
MomsRising
Monsoon Asians & Pacific Islanders in Solidarity
National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners
National Center on Domestic Violence, Trauma, and Mental Health
National Healthy Start Association
National League for Nursing
National Network of Child Psychiatry Access Programs
National Perinatal Association
New Hampshire Mom Hub
New Mexico Asian Family Center
New York State Perinatal Association
NICU Parent Network
Nurtured TX
Perinatal Support Washington
Pike County Help Me Grow
Policy Center for Maternal Mental Health

Postpartum Resource Center of New York
Postpartum Support International - Arizona Chapter
Postpartum Support International - California Chapter
Postpartum Support International - Charleston, SC Chapter
Postpartum Support International - Delaware Chapter
Postpartum Support International - Iowa Chapter
Postpartum Support International - Kansas Chapter
Postpartum Support International - Maryland Chapter
Postpartum Support International - Montana Chapter
Postpartum Support International - North Carolina Chapter
Postpartum Support International - Virginia Chapter
Postpartum Support International - West Virginia Chapter
PrairieCare Perinatal Clinic
PUSH for Empowered Pregnancy
Reproductive Psychiatry Research Program
Return to Zero: Hope
S.W. Doula, LLC
Saul's Light
Save Texas Moms
Seven Starling
Shields for Families
Silvie Bells
Society for Women's Health Research
Staten Island Perinatal Network
Steady Hope
Students Engaged in Advancing Texas (SEAT)
The Birth Nurse
The Colette Louise Tisdahl Foundation
The National Partnership for Women and Families
The Tiny Miracles Foundation
The Village Maternal Holistic Wellness Center LLC
Thompson Ecumenical Empowerment Group
Thrive Postpartum Couples and Family Therapy
U.S. Breastfeeding Committee
UltraViolet
UMass Chan Medical School
When Survivors Give Birth
Whole Parent Foundation
Wildflower Health
Women and Children: Counseling, Consulting & Educating LLC
Women's Health Innovations of Arizona
YANA
Zero Overdose