

# **KBEN**

**Kansas Birth  
Equity Network**



The Kansas Birth Equity Network

# **COMMUNITY RESOURCE BOOKLET**



## **MISSION**

To use a community-centered approach to create solutions that improve Black maternal, paternal, and infant health in Kansas through training, research, healthcare, and advocacy.

## **VISION**

Every Black mom, birthing person, dad, and infant receives quality and intentional prenatal, neonatal, and postpartum care in the state of Kansas.

## **PURPOSE**

To convene stakeholders across Kansas to develop solutions and improve Black maternal, paternal and infant health in the State of Kansas.

## **BIRTH EQUITY DEFINITION**

*Developed by The Kansas Birth Equity Network*

“Birth equity is defined as the assurance of equitable care through creating a system that eliminates health inequities and values parents and community stakeholders.”

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## DOULAS, BREAST/CHESTFEEDING, BIRTH CARE & HEALTH CARE ACCESS

### **Black Paradise Doulas | Manhattan, KS**

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Birth Doula, Postpartum Doula, Placenta Encapsulation, Lactation Support.

[www.blackparadisedoulas.com/](http://www.blackparadisedoulas.com/)  
[mentoria@blackparadisedoulas.com](mailto:mentoria@blackparadisedoulas.com)  
Facebook: @BlackParadiseDoulas  
Instagram: @BlackParadiseDoulas

### **Blissful Beginnings Doula Services | Kansas City, MO**

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Birth & Postpartum Services, Childbirth Preparation Course, Community Resources for Family Assistance

[www.blissfuldoulaservices.com](http://www.blissfuldoulaservices.com) | (913) 944-5280  
[empowersoulitude@gmail.com](mailto:empowersoulitude@gmail.com)  
Facebook: @BlissfulDoulaServices

### **Doulas of Douglas County | Lawrence, KS**

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Doula services including birth plans and empowered pregnancy and labor and guidance postpartum. They provide a maternity closet to provide essential maternity and baby items.

[doulasofdouglascounty.org](http://doulasofdouglascounty.org) | (785) 760-3924  
[doula@dcsb6.org](mailto:doula@dcsb6.org)  
Facebook: @Doulasofdouglascounty

## Kansas Birth Justice Society | Wichita, KS

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Doula services, lactation support, meditation room, workshops, mutual aid food and baby items, lending library, full-spectrum doula training. Our community-driven programs and services focus on addressing the most pressing needs that exist today.

[ksbirthjusticesociety.org](http://ksbirthjusticesociety.org) | (316) 500-0629

[sapphire@ksbirthjustice.org](mailto:sapphire@ksbirthjustice.org)

Facebook: @KansasBirthJusticeSociety

## Labored with Love | Kansas City, KS

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*Concierge Birth & Lactation Services*

Perinatal Doula Services (Prenatal, Birth, Postpartum, & Bereavement Support), Lactation Services, Placenta Encapsulation, Concierge Nursing Services.

[www.laboredwithlove.com](http://www.laboredwithlove.com) | (913) 543-1077

Facebook: @LaboredWithLove

Instagram: @LaboredWithLove

## Mahina Birth Support, LLC | Kansas City, MO

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Birth Doula Support, Custom Birth Planning, Birth Photography.

[www.mahinabirth.com](http://www.mahinabirth.com) | (816) 659-2108

[hello@mahinabirth.com](mailto:hello@mahinabirth.com)

Facebook: @MahinaBirth

Instagram: @MahinaBirthSupport

## New Birth Company, LLC | Overland Park, KS

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New Birth Company is a State Licensed Birth Facility. We provide prenatal, birth, postpartum and newborn services to low-risk Moms. We affirm Women's autonomy and self-determination in her birth experience while providing continuity of care when physician and hospital services are needed.

[www.newbirthcompany.com](http://www.newbirthcompany.com) | (913) 735-4888  
Facebook: @NewBirthCompany  
Instagram: @NewBirthCompany

## Peachy Births: Doula & Lactation Services, LLC | Kansas City, MO

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Birth Doula & Lactation Support. Sliding scale offered.

[www.peachybirths.com](http://www.peachybirths.com) | (913) 703-3252  
[ashley@peachybirths.com](mailto:ashley@peachybirths.com)  
Facebook: @PeachyBirths  
Instagram: @PeachyBirths

## Sacred Organized Spaces, LLC | Kansas City, MO

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Perinatal Doula Services (Prenatal, Birth, & Postpartum Support). Pregnancy & Postpartum Herbal Blends.  
Nursery Room Organization.

(314) 458-1904 | [sacredorganizedspaces@gmail.com](mailto:sacredorganizedspaces@gmail.com)  
Facebook: @SacredOrganizedSpaces

## Topeka Doula Project | Topeka, KS

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Topeka Doula Project offers free doula services to teens, incarcerated and reintegrated families, and families who have or qualify for Medicaid.

[www.topekadoula.org](http://www.topekadoula.org) | (785) 380-7899

Facebook: @TopekaDoula

Instagram: @TopekaDoulaProject

## Uzazi Village | Kansas City, MO

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Uzazi Village works to improve perinatal health in the Kansas City community and around the country. We work every day to build a respectful and supportive healthcare system that fosters equitable and sustainable outcomes in maternal and infant health.

- Free Perinatal Care for Black and Brown Families
- Doula services & Perinatal Doula training program
- Free maternity and infant clothing, diapers, and baby gear

<https://uzazivillage.org/> | (816) 541-3718

Facebook: @UzaziVillage

Instagram: @UzaziVillage

## Kansas Breastfeeding Coalition | Kansas (Statewide)

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Kansas  
Breastfeeding  
Coalition, Inc.

Breastfeeding resources for families and those who support them.

<https://ksbreastfeeding.org/> | (785) 477-4666

Facebook: @KSBreastfeeding

Instagram: @KSBreastfeeding

## Wichita Black Breastfeeding Coalition | Wichita, KS

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Providing breastfeeding support and awareness to Communities of Color in the Wichita area.

<https://www.wichitabbcc.com/> | [bbcofwichita@gmail.com](mailto:bbcofwichita@gmail.com)

Facebook: Wichita Black Breastfeeding Coalition

## CradleKC | Kansas City, KS

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Cradle Kansas City is a collective impact group consisting of public and private partnerships, community organizations, and resident experts with lived experience who are dedicated to changing the systems, large and small, that reinforce the status quo. We accomplish change through: partnerships with medical systems, resident-built strategies, and clear messaging that is aimed at systemic change.

[www.cradlekc.com/](http://www.cradlekc.com/) | (913) 486-8568

[info@cradlekc.com](mailto:info@cradlekc.com)

Facebook: @CradleKC

Instagram: @Cradle\_KC



## Healthy Babies | Wichita, KS

### Healthy Babies



Educational home visitation program that provides prenatal and postpartum support caregivers and their families in Sedgwick County. No out of pocket expense to participants. On the "Welcome Home" postpartum check, an RN will check on new baby's vitals and wellness and provide information on infant development and preventative programs.

<https://www.sedgwickcounty.org/health/healthy-babies/>  
(316) 660-7433 | [healthy.babies@sedgwick.gov](mailto:healthy.babies@sedgwick.gov)

Facebook: @SedgwickCounty

Twitter: @SedgwickCounty

## Melanated Maternal Therapy | Kansas City, KS



Melanated Maternal Therapy specializes in providing virtual therapy to people of color experiencing perinatal mood and anxiety disorders in KS and MO. Melanated Maternal Therapy accepts KS and MO Medicaid and some commercial insurance plans.

<https://www.melanatedmaternaltherapy.com/>  
(913) 485-9931 | [Brittany@MelanatedMaternalTherapy.com](mailto:Brittany@MelanatedMaternalTherapy.com)

## Therapy for Black Girls | Online

### THERAPY *for* BLACK GIRLS

Therapy for Black Girls is an online space dedicated to encouraging the mental wellness of Black women and girls. Join a Sister Circle or use the directory to find a Black therapist.

<https://www.therapyforblackgirls.com/>  
[info@therapyforblackgirls.com](mailto:info@therapyforblackgirls.com)

## Clinicians of Color Directory | Online

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An online directory of clinicians of various racial and ethnic backgrounds, as well as training and treatment styles.

<https://www.cliniciansofcolor.org/>

[support@cliniciansofcolor.org](mailto:support@cliniciansofcolor.org)

Facebook: @CliniciansofColor

Instagram: @Clinicians.OC

## Hopeful and Whole Counseling | Overland Park, KS

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Perinatal mental health counseling services, including pregnancy, postpartum, infertility, and loss. Individual counseling, counseling groups, and integrative workshops.

<https://hopefulandwhole.com/> | (951) 892-0665

[stephanie@hopefulandwhole.com](mailto:stephanie@hopefulandwhole.com)

Facebook: @StephanieRisingerLCMFT

Instagram: @HopefulAndWhole

## More Life Chiropractic | Kansas City, MO



**MORE LIFE**  
CHIROPRACTIC

The goal of More Life Chiropractic is to promote and offer quality health and wellness care through chiropractic treatment. We use advanced strategies and technologies to help patients find relief naturally.

<https://www.morelifechiro.com/>

(816) 710-6673 | [info@morelifechiro.com](mailto:info@morelifechiro.com)

Facebook: @MoreLifeChiro

Instagram: @MoreLifeChiro

## Resourceful | Resource Finder



Resourceful is a free community resource guide to help you find free and reduced cost services near you.

<https://resourceful.findhelp.com>

## Vibrant Health | Kansas City, KS



Vibrant Health offers medical, dental, behavioral health, women's health, and pharmacy services to Kansas City's underserved and uninsured families in Wyandotte County.

<https://vibranthealthkc.org/> | (913) 342-2552

Facebook: @VibrantHealthKC

Instagram: @VibrantHealthKC

## Community Health Council of Wyandotte County | Kansas City, KS



Barrier free Maternal Community Health Worker services for Wyandotte, Johnson, Leavenworth, and Miami counties. Barrier free car seat, pack n play, diapers, formula for families in the KC Metro. Free Prenatal, Infant health and feeding, Safe Sleep, and Healthy Lifestyle Management class for the KC Metro.

[www.wycohealth.com](http://www.wycohealth.com) | (913) 371-9298

Facebook: @CHCofWyCo

Instagram: @CHCofWyCo

## Kansas Assistance Network, LLC | Kansas City, KS



Assistance with health insurance applications including Medicaid, Medicare, and Marketplace. Assistance with issues that arise with Medicaid, Medicare, and Marketplace. Connect to community resources

<https://ksassist.org/> | (913) 228-2475

Facebook: @KANLLC

## UGPHD Healthy Families Wyandotte | Kansas City, KS



Healthy Families Wyandotte is a free, voluntary home visiting program for pregnant moms, fathers, and families who want to improve their health and their child's health and development.

<https://tinyurl.com/ugphd-healthyfamilies>  
(913) 573-8855

Facebook: @HealthyFamiliesWyandotte

## **POLICY & ADVOCACY**

### **Advocacy & Awareness Group of Johnson County | Johnson County, KS**

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The Advocacy and Awareness Group of Johnson County seeks to bring attention to the social injustices happening across our nation in order to promote change, starting within our local community. We advocate for underrepresented groups by raising awareness through organized events focused on diversity, racial equality, and social justice.

<https://www.aagjc.org/>

[advocacyandawarenessgroupjc@gmail.com](mailto:advocacyandawarenessgroupjc@gmail.com)

Facebook: @AdvocacyandAwarenessGroupJC

### **First 1,000 Days Kansas | Kansas (Statewide)**

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Policy and advocacy tools to remove barriers and align systems to better support families in the first 1,000 days (pregnancy to age 2).

<http://first1000daysks.org/>

Facebook: @First1000DaysKS

Instagram: @First1000DaysKS

Twitter: @First1000DaysKS

## Kansas Action for Children | Topeka, KS



KAC is the leading non-profit in Kansas working to make Kansas a place where every child has the opportunity to grow up healthy and thrive. We engage in bipartisan advocacy, partnerships, and information-sharing on key issues, including early learning and education, health, and economic security for families. We work with policymakers, local organizations, and fellow advocates to inform sound policy, foster collaboration, and promote an equitable tax system.

<https://www.kac.org/> | (785) 232-0550

Facebook: @KSAction

Twitter: @KansasAction

LinkedIn: Kansas Action for Children

## Kansas Black Leadership Council | Kansas (Statewide)



KBLC advocates for change by actively working in Kansas communities to remove barriers to health, wealth, and social outcomes. We envision a Kansas where African Americans are able to overcome systemic level inequalities and thrive. We will accomplish this through research, education, voter engagement, and advocacy.

<https://www.kansasblc.org/> | [info@kansasblc.org](mailto:info@kansasblc.org)

Facebook: @KansasBLC

## EARLY EDUCATION

### **Growing Futures Early Education Center | Overland Park, KS**



Early head start for families in Johnson County | Center Based and Home-Based Services | Prenatal/Postpartum Support Services

<https://www.growingfutureseec.org/> | (913) 649-9714

Facebook: @GrowingFuturesEEC

Instagram: @GrowingFuturesEEC

### **Southern Care Daycare | Kansas City, KS**

#### **SOUTHERN CARE DAYCARE**



Home daycare facility offering a safe nurturing space where kids learn through curriculum-based educational activities. This provider offers childcare programs for children ages 1 year to 8 years. Availability is limited and first come, first served.

[mgossett20@gmail.com](mailto:mgossett20@gmail.com)

### **The Family Conservancy | Kansas City, KS**



Early care and education access | Outpatient mental health services | Parent education

<https://www.thefamilyconservancy.org/> | (913) 342-1110

Facebook: @TheFamilyConservancy

Instagram: @TheFamilyConservancy

Twitter: @TFCKC

## **NUTRITION SERVICES**

### **UGPHD Wyandotte County WIC Program | Kansas City, KS**



Nutrition counseling by registered, licensed dietitians.  
Breastfeeding encouragement and support. Nutritious  
food at local grocery stores.

<https://tinyurl.com/ugphd-wic> | (913) 573-6720  
[nutrition@wycokck.org](mailto:nutrition@wycokck.org)  
Twitter: @UnifiedGovt

## **FAMILY SERVICES**

### **Healthy Babies Fatherhood Program | Wichita, KS**

*Healthy Babies*



The Fatherhood Program is a FREE in person or online program for fathers and partners that follows the Fathering in 15™ curriculum. The Fatherhood Program offers opportunities to engage in conversations and activities to enhance parenting skills and establish healthy behaviors that can improve family relationships.

<https://www.sedgwickcounty.org/health/healthy-babies/fatherhood-program/>  
(316) 660-7433 | [fatherhood@sedgwick.gov](mailto:fatherhood@sedgwick.gov)



## Dope Black Dads KCK Meetup | Kansas City, KS



Join other Black Dope Dads for a conversation about mental health and maternal health for Black families! Meetups are on the first Friday of the month at 6:00 pm and a virtual attendance option is provided.

<https://tinyurl.com/DopeBlackDadsKCK> | (913) 371-9298  
[sclay@wycoheath.com](mailto:sclay@wycoheath.com)

## Fathers Assisting Mothers | Kansas City, MO



Fathers Assisting Mothers (FAM) is dedicated to preparing expectant fathers for one of life's most significant journeys through education, support, and advocacy.

<https://www.kcsl.org/> | (816) 868-6110  
[Admin@thatsmyfam.org](mailto:Admin@thatsmyfam.org)  
Instagram: @thedadsdoula

## Kansas Children's Service League | Wichita, KS



Kansas Children's Service League works to prevent childhood abuse and neglect, offer family support, improve school readiness, and provide parent and community education in communities throughout the state of Kansas.

<https://www.kcsl.org/> | (877) 530-5275  
24/7 Parent Support: 1-800-CHILDREN  
Facebook: @MyKCSL  
Instagram: @KansasChildren

## UGPHD Wyandotte County Youth Empowerment (Y.E.S.) | Kansas City, KS



Youth Empowerment Services aims to help pregnant/parenting mothers increase resources & levels of self-sufficiency. Empowerment and pregnancy support for young parents.

<https://tinyurl.com/ugphd-yes> | (913) 573-6734

Twitter: @UnifiedGovt

## Parent Gathering Circles | Wichita, KS



Through a collaboration between Kansas Birth Justice Society and the Kansas Birth Equity Network, we've created a brand new online space for Black and brown parents in Kansas to connect, vent, talk through our common experiences, and support each other. We'll discuss a new hot topic each week in this private community space that was created just for us.

Join us online from anywhere you are on Wednesdays at 6:30pm CST!

<https://tinyurl.com/ParentGatheringCircles> | (316) 258-4254

## United Way of the Plains | Wichita, KS



Our focus is on health, education, financial stability and basic needs—the building blocks for a good quality of life and a strong community. We believe everyone should have the opportunity to thrive.

<https://unitedwayplains.org/> | (316) 267-1321

Facebook: @UnitedWayPlains

Instagram: @UnitedWayPlains

Twitter: @UnitedWayPlains

## LOCAL BUSINESSES & ORGANIZATIONS

### 'Amir'acle Body Butters & More | Kansas City, MO



All natural body butters that soothe and moisturize the skin. All natural room sprays that refresh and shift the mood with its pure essential oils. All natural hydrating cream infused with skin loving ingredients your skin needs. Experience 'Amir'acle beauty without the guilt!

<https://amiraclebodybutters.com/>

[amiraclebodybutters@gmail.com](mailto:amiraclebodybutters@gmail.com)

Facebook: Amiracle Body Butters & More

Instagram: @AmiracleBodyButters

### 'BLK + BRWN, LLC. | Kansas City, MO



Amplifying Black and Brown storytelling in all the ways we share them. Whether through art, music, poetry, dance, or writing — our stories are important!

<https://www.blkbrwn.com/> | (816) 469-5922

[blkbrwnkc@gmail.com](mailto:blkbrwnkc@gmail.com)

Facebook: @BlkBrwnKC

Instagram: @BlkBrwnKC

## ICT Baby Bump Studio | Wichita, KS

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Belly Paintings for baby showers, gender reveals, and maternity photos. Belly Castings for keepsake and nursery or baby shower decor. Prenatal Paint & Sip Parties with music, mocktails, and photos included.

<https://www.ictbabybumpstudio.com/> | (316) 247-0302

[ictbabybumpstudio@gmail.com](mailto:ictbabybumpstudio@gmail.com)

Facebook: Baby Bump Studio

Instagram: @ICTBabyBumpStudio

## REIN Aesthetics Candle Co., LLC | Kansas City, MO

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Inspiring R.E.I.Nvigorated resiliency with mood elevating aromatherapy for the Glowing & Growing YOU!

(816) 944-0169 | [reinaesthetics.candleco@gmail.com](mailto:reinaesthetics.candleco@gmail.com)

Facebook: @SunAfterTheREIN

Instagram: @SunAfterThe\_REIN

## Sensual Selections & Spa | Wichita, KS

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Holistic Feminine Health and Wellness. Yoni Vaginal Steaming. Ear and Navel Candling.

<https://sensualselectionsandspa.com/> | (316) 395-0107

[vsteams4queens@yahoo.com](mailto:vsteams4queens@yahoo.com)

Facebook: @ThePunanyPriestess

Instagram: @SensualSelectionsSpa

## Sistahs Can We Talk | Wichita, KS



Sistahs Can We Talk is a nonprofit that utilizes the Healthy Me Initiative to empower women to take charge of their health. Offering workshops and small events to fill the gaps in health disparities for women of color.

<http://www.sistahscanwetalk.com/> | (316) 806-2280

Facebook: @SistahsCanWeTalk

Instagram: @SistahsCanWeTalk

## The Links, Incorporated | Greater Kansas City, Topeka, KS & Wichita, KS



The Links, Incorporated is a women's volunteer service organization committed to enriching, sustaining and ensuring the cultural and economic survival of African Americans and other persons of African ancestry.

### Greater Kansas City Area

<https://www.gkclinksinc.org/>

[info@gkclinksinc.org](mailto:info@gkclinksinc.org)

Facebook: @GKCLinks

### Topeka, KS

<http://www.topekalinksinc.org/>

[topekachapteroflinks@yahoo.com](mailto:topekachapteroflinks@yahoo.com)

Facebook: Topeka Chapter of The Links, Inc.

### Wichita, KS

<https://www.wichitalinks.org/>

[wichitalinks1968@gmail.com](mailto:wichitalinks1968@gmail.com)

Facebook: @WichitaKSLinks

## The Scented Webb | Kansas City, MO

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THE SCENTED WEBB  
FRAGRANCE AND WELLNESS BOUTIQUE

A Fragrance & Wellness Movement specializing in luxury perfumes, fragrance oils, and handcrafted body products.

<https://www.thescentedwebb.com/>

[thescentedwebb@gmail.com](mailto:thescentedwebb@gmail.com)

Facebook: @TheScentedWebb

Instagram: @TheScentedWebb

# KANSAS BIRTH EQUITY NETWORK

## LEARN MORE

[www.tinyurl.com/KSBirthEquity](http://www.tinyurl.com/KSBirthEquity)

<https://www.k-ben.org>

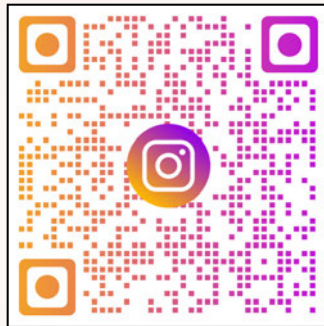
## CONTACT US

[kben@kumc.edu](mailto:kben@kumc.edu)

(913) 363-3337

## FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA

@KSBirthEquity



## JOIN THE NETWORK



## MEET OUR TEAM



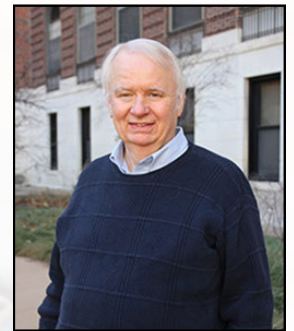
**Sharla Smith, PhD, MPH**  
Founder & Director



**Oluoma Obi**  
Research Associate



**Shea Roy**  
Graduate Research Assistant



**Bernard Schuster**  
Research Associate



**Sharon Wolff, PhD**  
Data Manager



**Claire Metcalf**  
Graduate Research Assistant



**Sapphire Garcia-Lies**  
Associate Director of  
Community Engagement



**KBEN**

**Kansas Birth  
Equity Network**

