



ITUP's Spring Policy Forum: Douglas Care in LA County: Improving Maternal Outcomes

March 27, 2025

10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. PT

ITUP Resources:

- Check out all ITUP publications: <https://www.itup.org/publications/>
- Check out today's event agenda here: <https://www.itup.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/03/FINAL-Douglas-Policy-Forum-Agenda.pdf>
- Be sure to sign up for ITUP's Weekly Newsletters here: <https://www.itup.org/publications/newsletter-signup/>
- Check out ITUP's Doula Fact Sheet, Mobilizing Doulas: Advancing Equitable Maternal Health Outcomes in California: <https://www.itup.org/mobilizing-douglas-advancing-equitable-maternal-health-outcomes-in-california/>
- Check out ITUP's Workforce Fact Sheet, California Health Care Specialty Workforce Shortages: <https://www.itup.org/california-health-care-specialty-workforce-shortages-fact-sheet/>
- Check out ITUP's Fact Sheet, Community Health Workers and the Health Care Delivery System: <https://www.itup.org/community-health-workers-and-the-health-care-delivery-system/>
- To stay updated on all upcoming ITUP events, publications and workshops be sure to sign up for ITUP's Weekly Newsletters here: <https://www.itup.org/publications/newsletter-signup/>
- Support Health Policy in California – Donate Today: <https://donate.stripe.com/9AQdUo6AV04S00MdQS>

Legislative Resources:

- Learn more about SB 464 (Mitchell) California Dignity in Pregnancy and Childbirth Act: https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=201920200SB464
- Learn more about AB 3032 (Frazier) Maternal Mental Health Conditions: https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml?bill_id=201720180AB3032



- Learn more about SB 65 (Skinner) Maternal Care and Services:
https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml?bill_id=202120220SB65
- Learn more about AB 904 (Calderon) Health Care Coverage – Doulas:
https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=202320240AB904
- Learn more about AB 2319 (Wilson & Weber) California Dignity in Pregnancy and Childbirth Act:
https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=202320240AB2319

Key Terms & Definitions:

- **Perinatal:** Refers to the time period from the conception of the pregnancy to one month after giving birth.
- **Medical Racism:** The systematic and wide-spread racism against people of color within the medical system. It includes both the racism in our society that makes Black people less healthy, the disparity in health coverage by race, and the biases held by health care workers against people of color in their care.
- **Toxic Stress:** Occurs when there is excessive or prolonged activation of stress response systems in the brain and body
- **Social Determinants of Health (SDoH):** Also known as Social Drivers of Health, refers to the conditions in environments where people are born, live, learn, work, play, worship, and age that influence their health risks and overall wellbeing. Some of these drivers include access to safe housing, nutritious food, parks and green space, and even broadband and internet connectivity, all of which impact the ability of and opportunity for Californians to live their healthiest lives.

Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) Resources:

- Learn more about the Department of Health Care Services Doula Services as a Medi-Cal Benefit here: <https://www.dhcs.ca.gov/provgovpart/Pages/Doula-Services.aspx>
- Be Engaged in the Upcoming Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) Doula Implementation Stakeholder Workgroup on April 11, 2025 from 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. PT:
<https://www.dhcs.ca.gov/provgovpart/Pages/Doula-Implementation-Stakeholder->



[Workgroup.aspx#:~:text=The%20Doula%20Implementation%20Workgroup%20\(the,for%20and%20want%20doula%20services.](#)

- Check out DHCS Doula Services Frequently Asked Questions:
<https://www.dhcs.ca.gov/provgovpart/Pages/Doula-Providers-Reimbursement-FAQ.aspx>
- Check out the DHCS All Plan Letter 25-004 – Community Reinvestment Requirements:
<https://www.dhcs.ca.gov/formsandpubs/Documents/MMCDAPLsandPolicyLetters/APL%202025/APL25-004.pdf>
- Check out the Department of Health Care Services Provider Application and Validation for Enrollment (PAVE): <https://www.dhcs.ca.gov/provgovpart/Pages/PAVE.aspx>
- Check out DHCS' Doula Providers Landing Page:
<https://www.dhcs.ca.gov/provgovpart/Pages/Doula-Providers.aspx>

California Department of Public Health (CDPH) Resources:

- Check out the California Home Visiting Program (CHVP):
<https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CFH/DMCAH/CHVP/Pages/default.aspx>
- Check out the California Department of Public Health's All Facilities Letter 25-13 Benefits of Doula Support and Recommendations to Accommodate Doula Services and Foster a Doula-Friendly Environment: <https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CHCQ/LCP/Pages/AFL-25-13.aspx>

California Health Care Foundation (CHFC) Resource:

- Check out California Health Care Foundation's Publication What Is a Doula?:
<https://www.chcf.org/publication/what-is-doula-policy-glance/>
- Check out California Health Care Foundation's Blog – More Doulas Are Needed in California's Health Workforce: <https://www.chcf.org/blog/more-doulas-needed-californias-health-workforce/>
- Check out California Health Care Foundation's Maternity Workforce Insights Landing Page:
<https://www.chcf.org/collection/maternity-workforce-insights/>



- Check out the Listening to Mothers in California Full Survey Report, September 2018 (page 27):
<https://www.chcf.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/09/ListeningMothersCAFullSurveyReport2018.pdf>

Other Resources Shared:

- Learn more about the Black Infant Health Program (BIH):
<https://www.cityofpasadena.net/public-health/black-infant-health-program/>
- Check out the Black Infants and Family Los Angeles County Webpage for more information on the work of the LA County African American Infant & Maternal Mortality (AAIMM) Prevention Initiative: <https://www.blackinfantsandfamilies.org/about>
- Check out the Black Infants & Families Los Angeles Doula Page:
<https://www.blackinfantsandfamilies.org/doulas>
- Learn more about the LA County African American Infant & Maternal Mortality (AAIMM) Prevention Initiative: <http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/mch/AAIMM/aaimm-new.htm>
- Check out Jenesse Center, Inc.: <https://jenesse.org/>
- Check out the Frontline Doula Program: <https://www.frontlinedoulas.com/engage>
- Check out the LA County Medi-Cal Doula Hub: <https://www.frontlinedoulas.com/doula-hub>
- Check out this resource for Community Doula Champions Medi-Cal Enrollment FAQ/Q&A:
<https://www.frontlinedoulas.com/faq-medi-cal-doula-benefit>
- Check out the SBCC Community Doulas: <https://www.sbcc.community/ventures/community-doulas>
- Learn more about the Care First Community Investment (CFI) Program:
<https://icod.lacounty.gov/program/care-first-community-investment-cfi/>
- Stay engaged and check out the Birthworkers of Color Collective:
<https://www.birthworkersofcolor.com/>
- Stay engaged with the National Health Law Program (NHeLP): <https://healthlaw.org/>
- Stay engaged and check out Black Women for Wellness: <https://bwwla.org/>
- Stay engaged and check out the California Black Women's Health Project:
<https://www.cabwhp.org/maternal-reproductive-e.html>