



## Ohio Legislative Children's Caucus

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*Learning, connecting, and problem-solving  
together. Our children are counting on us.*

*Expanding Access to Doula Services to Improve Maternal & Infant Health  
November 28, 2022*

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# Opening Remarks: Rep. Susan Manchester



*Ohio Legislative  
Children's Caucus  
Co-Chair*



Jazmin Long  
CEO,  
Birthing Beautiful  
Communities



BIRTHING BEAUTIFUL  
COMMUNITIES

# Connecting The Dots of Life

An Introduction to Birthing Beautiful  
Communities and Community Doula  
Services

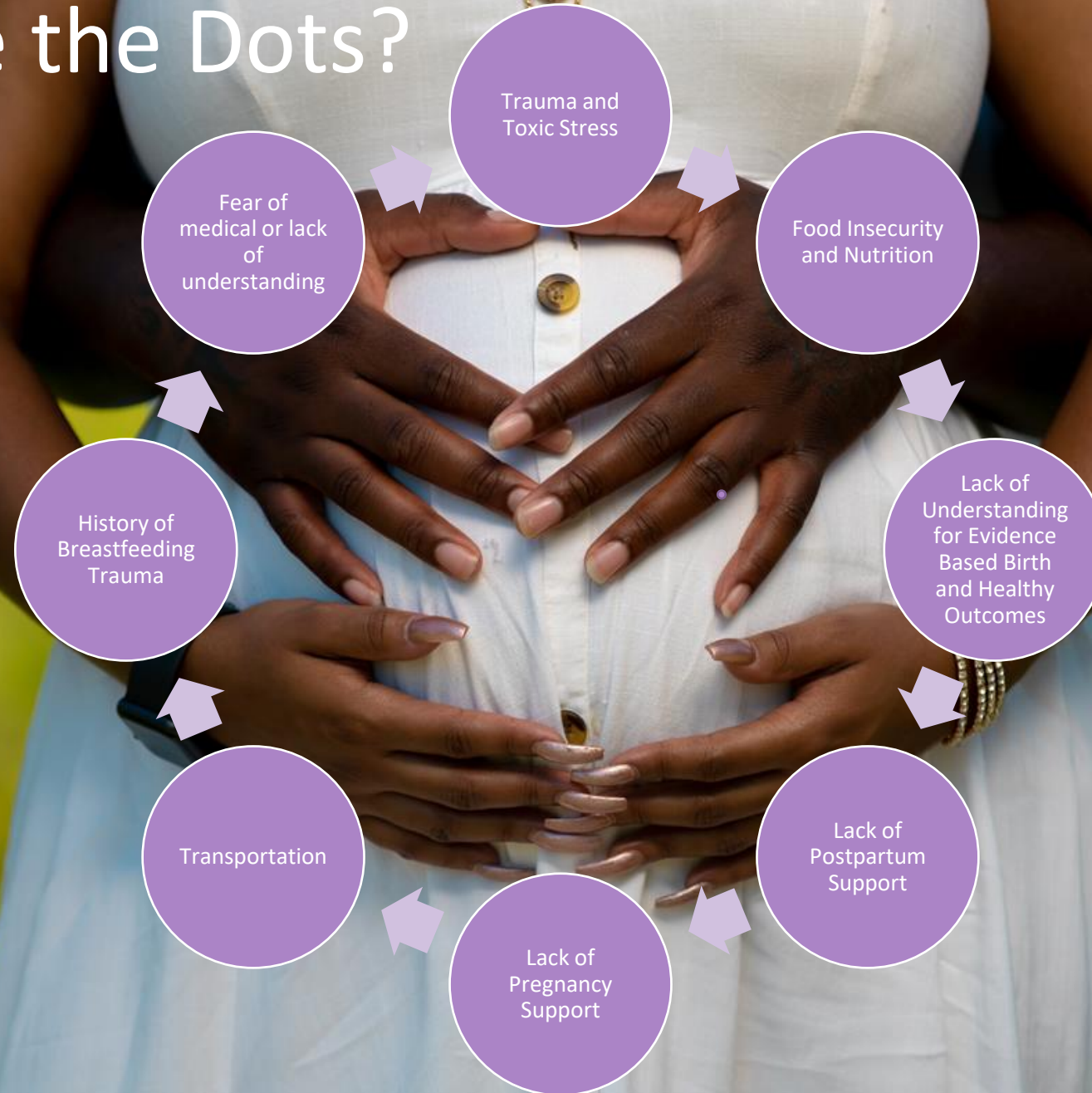




# Mission

To address and improve the **community and systemic structures** that lead to **poor birth outcomes** through **culture**, education, advocacy, support and engagement.

# So, what are the Dots?





# Doula - doo-luh

A Doula is a trained birth coach. Our goal is to support woman in having the birth experience she wants while feeling supported through pregnancy & into the postpartum period.

Doulas provide continuous labor support and techniques for an easier labor even when medical staff are not in the room.



# Perinatal Support Doula

Birthing Beautiful Communities perinatal support program provides support for labor, delivery and postpartum health including depression, family, life and personal goal planning at no cost to the families we serve.



# Direct Service:

## Doula Doula

## VS. BBC Perinatal Support

### Traditional Doula

- May or may not be trained/certified
- Birth Doula Provides Continuous Labor Support
- Provides Support to the family during labor
- Creates Birth Plan with Client
- Postpartum Doula Provides to Client After the Birth
- Encourages Breastfeeding
- Number of home prenatal visits limited to package selected
- Paid service by client

### BBC Perinatal Support Doula

- Trained/Certified BBC Doula
- Lives in the Community She Serves
- Cultural Humility & Empathy
- Creates Birth Plan with Client
- Provides Childbirth Education for client and family
- Provides Continuous Labor Support
- Provides Support During Pregnancy, Labor and Postpartum
- Encourages and assists with Breastfeeding – Peer Lactation and Staff CLC
- Assists Client in creating a Self Sufficiency & Goal Plan
- Provides Sex & Reproductive Health Education
- Provide Parenting/Co-Parenting Education
- Provides Continuous Stress Management Support, Tools and Skills
- Service paid by donor, MCP, or other source including Buckeye medical and Caresource
- Service provided through BBC
- Case management and data reporting



# Direct Service Programs




Resource Specialist is available for housing and other emergency needs



# Our Approach

- Educate Clients
- birth plan and overview of what to expect
- attend appointments and review what clinicians have said to make sure they **understand**.
- lactation services that are culturally centered to community needs
- Connections between the community, the family, and the clinicians
- Reinforce evidenced based information with families while dispelling myths often believed
- Modeling behavior
- Realistic goals



# Our Wellness Network

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- OWN, formerly known as PAIL – Pregnancy and Infant Loss
- Toxic Film
- OWN is under our umbrella
- Tammie Jones – Director of Health Initiatives
- Counseling and Grief Recovery
- Peer Support



# Training

- 10 modules of training, 80 hours
- Must pass certification exam with 80% or higher
- 10 team members dual role: CHW and Doula (partnership with CSU)
- Weekly staff meeting and monthly professional development
  - Environmental Healthwatch training
  - HIV/AIDS training
  - Sex- Ed training
- Training includes case review, homework assignments, project / report, and community engagement
- Tools: 500 pg. manual, BBC database, social risk assessment, birth skills training, CPR, “Virtual Classroom” site.
- Trainees often have outside skills / education that lend to the role

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Meredith Smith  
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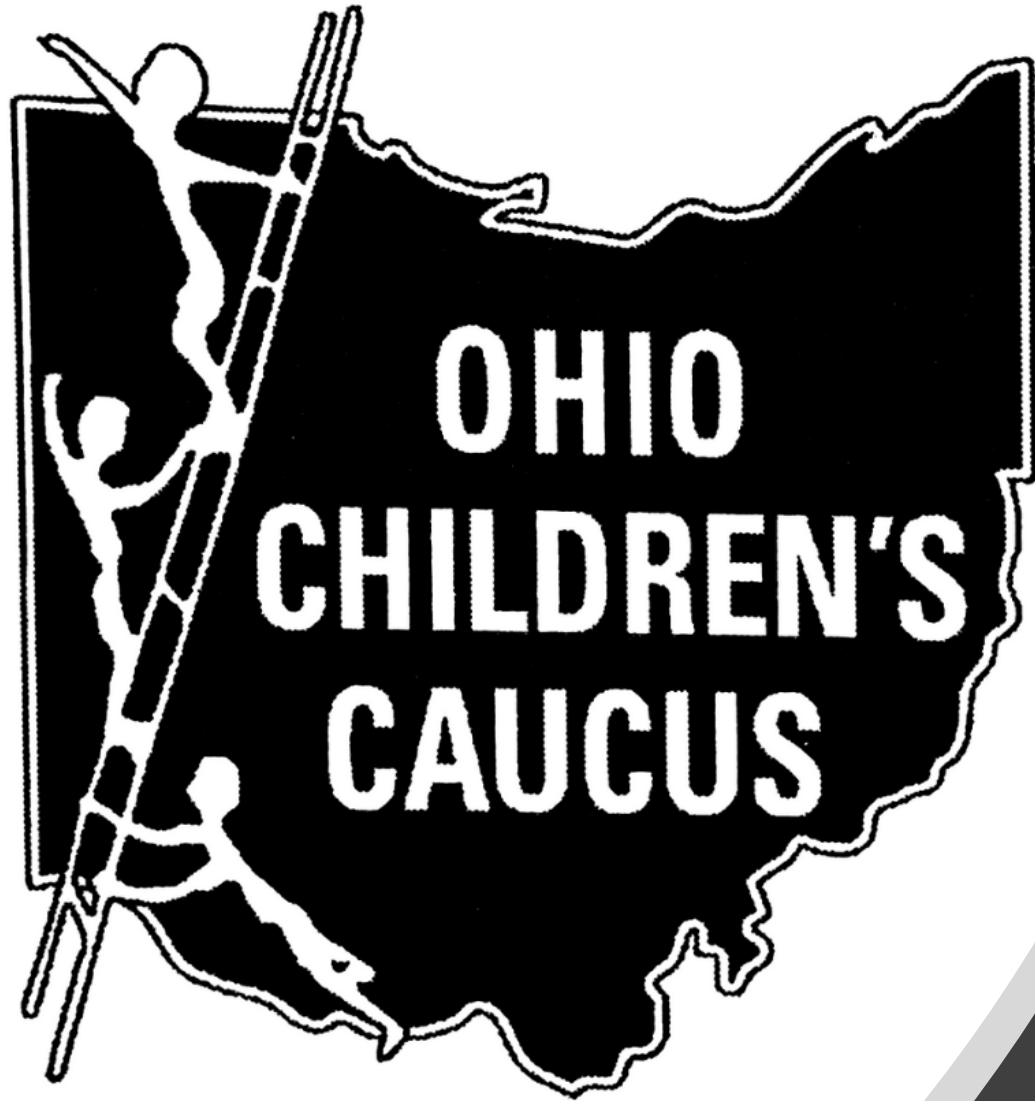


Meredith Strayhorn  
M. Ed.,

Clinical Birth Doula,  
Student Midwife, &

Founder & CEO of The  
Walking Stick





State Rep. Tom  
Brinkman

(R-27<sup>th</sup> District)

House Bill 142 Sponsor

# *Questions & Answers*

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*Moderated by Anastasia  
Kotkovskaya, Rep. Manchester's  
legislative aide*

*For legislators and legislative staff,  
please feel free to unmute  
yourselves to ask questions or  
share feedback.*

*For all other participants, please  
use the chat, and we will do our  
best to answer in the time allotted.*



*Thank you for joining  
today's webinar!*

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For more information on upcoming  
Ohio Legislative Children's Caucus  
webinars and meetings, please  
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