



THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF SAN MATEO, STATE OF CALIFORNIA
PROCLAMATION DESIGNATING APRIL 11 – 17, 2026 AS

Black Maternal Health Week

WHEREAS, Black Maternal Health Week was established in 2018 by the Black Mamas Matter Alliance as a national campaign to address the Black maternal health crisis, raise awareness of persistent disparities, and center the voices, experiences, and solutions of Black mothers and communities; and

WHEREAS, Black Maternal Health Week is observed annually from April 11 through April 17 during National Minority Health Month and serves as a nationwide call to action to advance maternal health equity; and

WHEREAS, in San Mateo County, Black residents represent a small but significant portion of the population, yet local public health data show that Black infants experience higher rates of preterm birth, low birth weight, and other adverse birth outcomes, underscoring the need for focused and sustained action; and

WHEREAS, these inequities are shaped by a complex set of structural and systemic factors including inequities in access to quality healthcare, barriers to culturally responsive services, chronic stress associated with discrimination, and gaps in supportive care; and

WHEREAS, improving maternal health outcomes requires collaboration among healthcare providers, public health agencies, and community organizations to expand support services, strengthen care, and advance equity; and

WHEREAS, San Mateo County is advancing these efforts through the establishment of a Maternal Health Trust Fund to support maternal health awareness, community engagement, and collaborative initiatives, and to serve as a mechanism to receive philanthropic contributions and partnerships that strengthen community-centered solutions; and

WHEREAS, as part of Black Maternal Health Week, San Mateo County will host a public screening of the PBS documentary, *The Risk of Giving Birth*, followed by a community panel discussion featuring healthcare providers, community advocates, doulas, and individuals with lived experience to foster dialogue, raise awareness, and promote solutions to improve maternal health outcomes; and

WHEREAS, this event reflects the County's commitment to community engagement, education, and cross-sector collaboration to address maternal health inequities and uplift the voices and experiences of Black mothers and families; and

WHEREAS, the 2026 theme, "Rooted in Justice and Joy," highlights the importance of healing, resilience, and building systems of care grounded in dignity and community strength.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED that the Board of Supervisors of the County of San Mateo, State of California, hereby proclaims **April 11-17, as Black Maternal Health Week**, reaffirming its commitment to improving maternal and infant health outcomes through continued investment, community engagement, and collaborative action to ensure healthy pregnancies and births for all.

Dated: April 7, 2026

ATTEST: _____
DEPUTY CLERK OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS