



# Cradle Cincinnati & Queens Village:

Promoting Infant and Maternal Health  
in Hamilton County

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# Cradle Cincinnati



**Launched:** 2013

**The Problem:** Cincinnati's infant mortality rates, especially among Black infants, are among the highest in the country. Black infants are nearly twice as likely to die before their first birthday compared to white infants.

**Key Focus Areas:** Cradle Cincinnati was created to address key factors contributing to infant mortality:

- Prematurity: Babies born too early face significant health risks.
- Unsafe Sleep: Lack of safe sleep practices contributes to sudden infant death.
- Smoking During Pregnancy: Reduces birth weight and increases infant mortality.

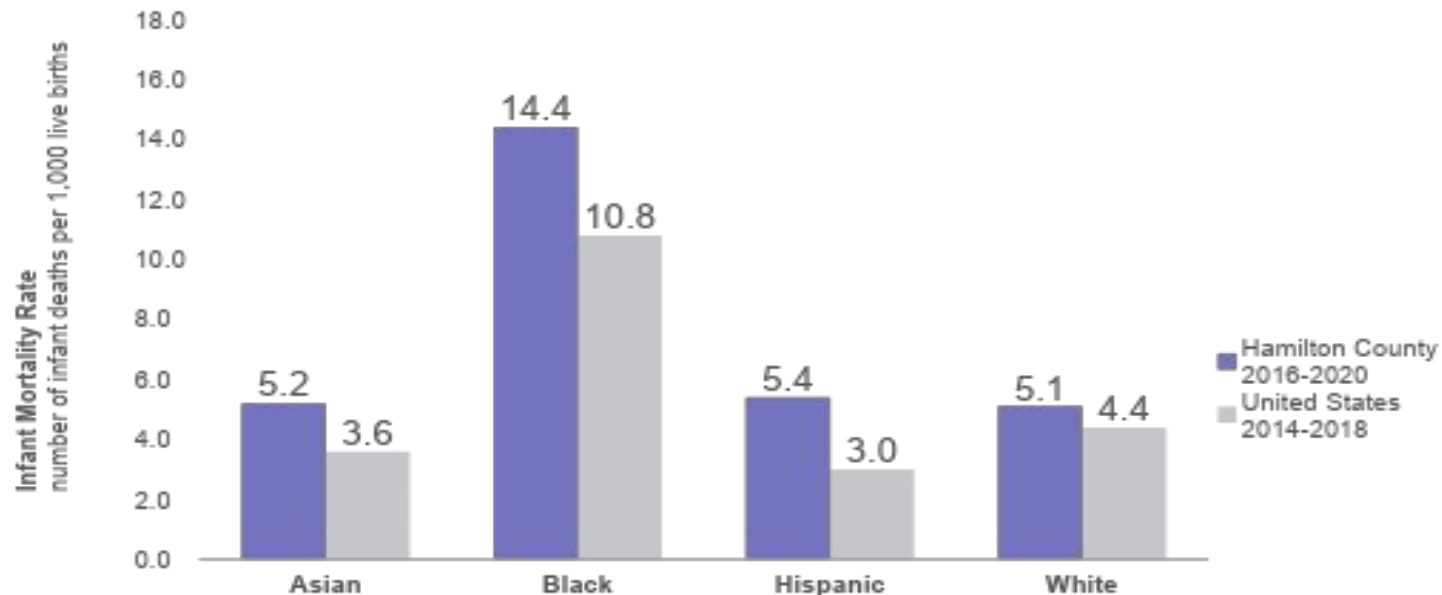
**Mission:** To reduce infant mortality in Hamilton County by focusing on prevention and improving health outcomes for mothers and babies.

# Queens Village

**Launched:** 2018

**Collaborative Focus:** Cradle Cincinnati recognizes that reducing infant mortality requires not only addressing health-related behaviors but also tackling the systemic barriers Black women face.

**Why Queens Village Matters:** Queens Village serves as a sister initiative to Cradle Cincinnati, focused specifically on empowering Black women and addressing the social determinants of health that contribute to disparities in maternal and infant health outcomes.



# How Queens Village Supports Black Women

- Offering Opportunities to Rest, Relax, and Repower
- Changing the Narrative
- Investing in Black Women's Leadership
- Creating Economic and Professional Opportunities and Pathways
- Engaging in Social, Political, and Medical Communities



# QUEENS VILLAGE Theory of Change



## Listen to Black Women

Pause and listen to the voices and experiences of Black women's experience of racism



## Take a clear stance against racism

Take a lead in equity work in your community, organization and collective in partnership with Black women



## Develop trust & shared power

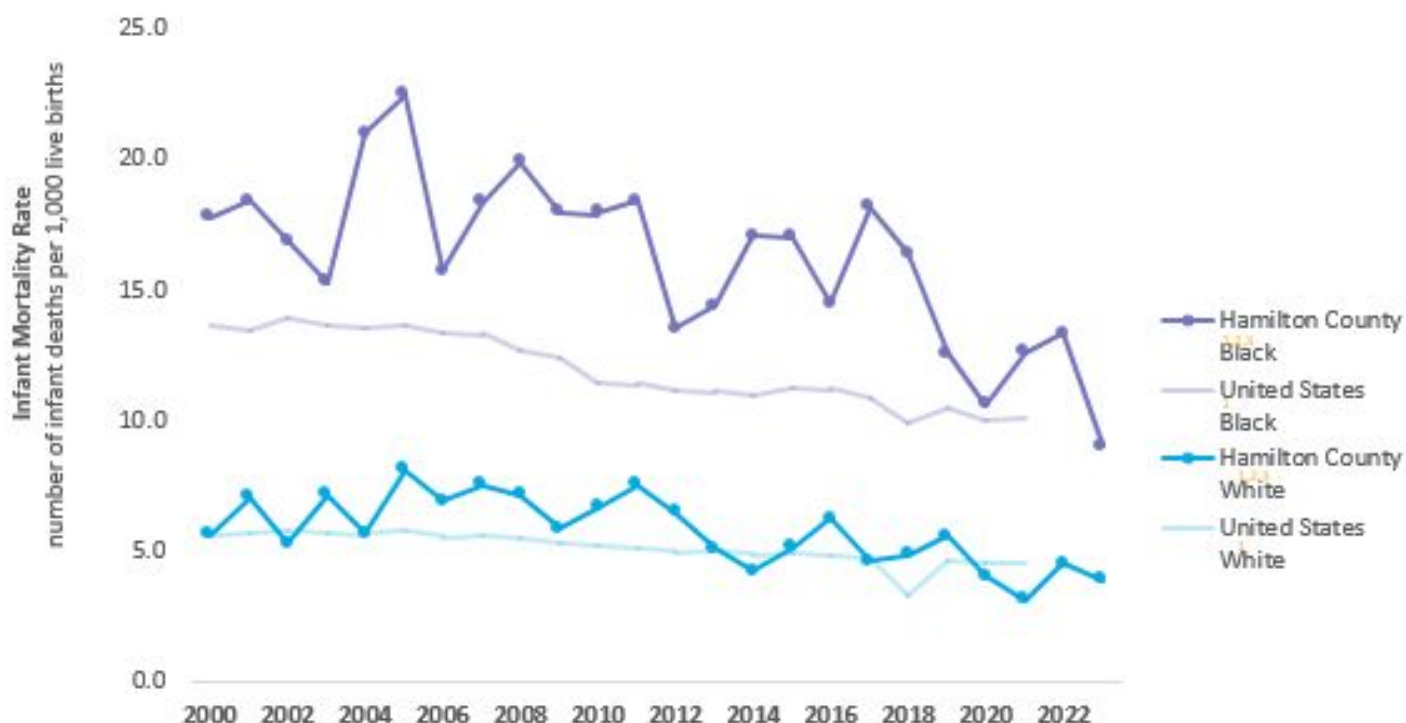
Find and Empower Talent  
Build Trust  
Recognize & Share Power



## Build consistent community

Invest in Black women's ideas and visions  
Build and grow authentic relationships

# Racial Disparity in Infant Mortality, Hamilton County and United States, 2000-2023



### Key Point:

- The racial disparity in infant mortality continues in Hamilton County.
- In 2023, Black babies are almost 2.5 times as likely to die as White babies in our community.

### Notes:

- Black = non-Hispanic Black as defined by mother
- White = non-Hispanic White as defined by mother
- 2022-2023 United States infant mortality by race data not yet released.

### Sources:

- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)
- Ohio Department of Health (ODH)
- Hamilton County Fetal and Infant Mortality Review (FIMR)

# 12 CHAPTERS NATIONWIDE

## 9 CHAPTERS IN OHIO

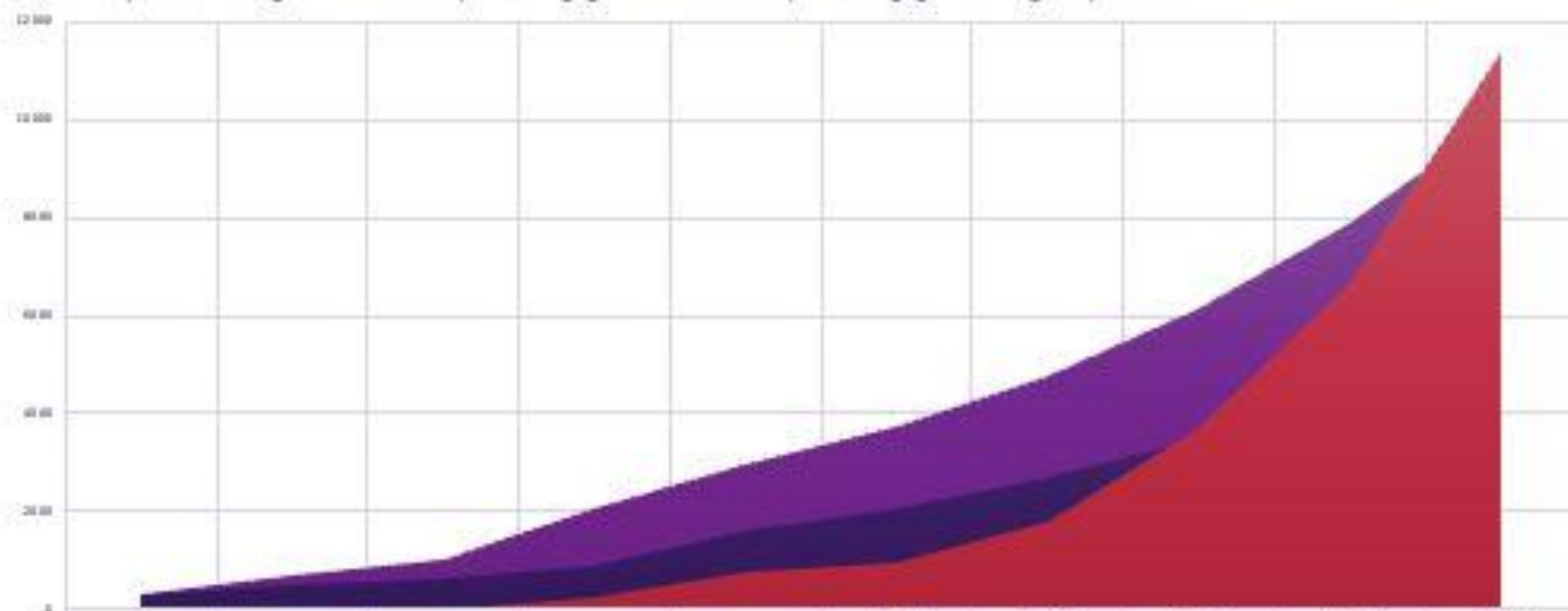


# Queens Village

Black Women Participants reached 2019 – 20228

## Queens Village Engagement - 2019 – 2026

■ Total Participants in Village ■ Participants Engaged ■ Participants Engaged through Expansion



	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024 (projected)	2025 (projected)	2026 (projected)	2027 (projected)	2028 (projected)
■ Total Participants in Village	277	677	1017	2054	2961	3753	4781	6119	7858	10119
■ Participants Engaged	277	505	661	903	1583	2058	2675	3478	4521	5878
■ Participants Engaged through Expansion				234	735	956	1779	3646	6634	11414



# Centering Black Women's Voices to Transform Maternal and Infant Health

- **Ohio Medicaid Advisory Work** - On 2 occasions QV Board members were selected to determine how over \$5 million dollars of Medicaid funding would be spent in county.
- **QV Corner** - Placing QV staff in local health centers for immediate connection to Black women and mothers, providing on-the-spot support and resources.
- **Mama Certified** - A national pilot created in response to Hamilton County mothers' call for clear information to help them make informed maternal care decisions.



# Join Us in Supporting Black Women and Babies



## How You Can Help:

- **Become a Partner:** Align with our mission to strengthen our efforts in creating lasting change for Black women and babies.
- **Raise Awareness:** Advocate for health equity in your networks to bring attention to the disparities affecting Black women and infants.
- **Get Involved:** Volunteer or support initiatives like Mama Certified, QV Corner, and our Community Advisory Boards.

**Together, We Can Make a Difference:** By addressing the **root causes of health disparities**, we uplift Black women and create healthier futures for our entire community. When Black mothers thrive, so do their families—and so does Cincinnati.

# Stay Connected with Queens Village & Cradle Cincinnati

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## **Queens Village**

Website: [blackwomenforthewin.com](http://blackwomenforthewin.com)

Social Media: @QueensVillageCincy (Instagram, Facebook)

## **Cradle Cincinnati**

Website: [cradlecincinnati.org](http://cradlecincinnati.org)

Social Media: @CradleCincinnati (Instagram, Facebook)

