



City of Cincinnati

801 Plum Street
Cincinnati, OH 45202

Agenda - Final-revised

Climate, Environment & Infrastructure

Councilmember Meeka Owens, Chairperson
Councilmember Mark Jeffreys, Vice-Chair
Councilmember Jeff Cramerding, Member
Councilmember Seth Walsh, Member

Tuesday, October 8, 2024

10:00 AM

Council Chambers, Room 300

PRESENTATIONS

National Resource Defense Council - Food Waste Reductions

Madeline Keating - Senior Advocate, Food Waste

Anya Obrez - Advocacy Associate, Food Waste

Queens Village - Social Determinants of Health

Josselyn Okorodudu - Director of Community Strategies

AGENDA

1. [202402137](#) **PRESENTATION**, dated 10/03/2024, submitted by Councilmember Owens, from the Natural Resources Defense Council, regarding Food Waste Reduction Recommendations in Cincinnati.

Sponsors: Owens
Attachments: [Presentation](#)
2. [202402159](#) **PRESENTATION**, dated 10/07/2024, submitted by Councilmember Owens, from Queens Village, regarding Social Determinants of Health.

Sponsors: Owens
Attachments: [Presentation](#)



Food Waste Reduction Recommendations in Cincinnati

NRDC'S FOOD MATTERS INITIATIVE

Cincinnati City Council's Climate, Environment, and
Infrastructure Committee

October 2024²



The Natural Resources Defense Council works to safeguard the earth: its people, plants and animals, and the natural systems on which all life depends. Our work includes fighting climate change; eliminating toxic chemicals from the food we eat, the water we drink, and the air we breathe; protecting endangered species and wild places; and advancing urban sustainability and healthy cities.



LOCAL

Working across city/county governments with local stakeholders to implement food waste programs and policies that serve as case studies to influence action at the state and federal level

Advancing scaling and knowledge sharing through our **peer learning knowledge sharing network**



FEDERAL

Working in coalition with federal actors, such as federal regulatory bodies, federal agencies, and government officials pass food waste policies, like grant programs that flow to cities and states

STATE

Partnering with Governor's offices, state regulatory and agencies to pass and/or implement food waste policies like organic waste bans that have impacts at the local level and can influence action federally



In the Green Cincinnati Plan, Cincinnati committed to

50% reduction in food going to landfill by 2030

FOOD WASTE REDUCTION POLICIES FOR CINCINNATI TO ADVANCE THIS GOAL

NRDC RECOMMENDATIONS

FOUNDATIONAL

1. Lead by example in city operations
2. Compost and food waste related procurement

Experts believe should be standard practice in cities seriously committed to reducing food waste

AMBITIOUS

3. Mandatory reporting for large food waste generators

More challenging, yet critical for cities to undertake to deliver significant food waste reductions

TRANSFORMATIONAL

4. Pay-as-you-throw
5. Mandatory organics recycling

Longer-term policies that must be implemented now to achieve deep food waste reductions

FOUNDATIONAL

Overview:

The impact of food waste reduction in municipal operations can be substantial. Addressing food waste in city operations can:

- (1) Reduce the amount of food wasted throughout municipal operations;
- (2) Highlight the importance of reducing food waste to businesses, residents, and other community members; and
- (3) Demonstrate food waste reduction measures that businesses and other entities may voluntarily replicate.

Lead by Example in City Operations

Recommendation: Pass a municipal ordinance that includes (but is not limited to):

1. Requirement that city-run facilities and government food service operations to **institute food waste prevention programs, expand food donation, implement organic waste collection, and measure and report** food waste generation
2. Requiring food waste reduction measures and tracking as part of **special event** permit application process
3. Implementing **training, education, and incentives** for agencies and staff

San Francisco, CA ▪ New York City, NY ▪ Denver, CO ▪
Portland, OR ▪ Austin, TX ▪ Minneapolis, MN

Supporting NRDC resource:

- [Model Order on Municipal Leadership on Food Waste Reduction](#)



Related GCP priorities:

City Operations | Food | Zero Waste

FOUNDATIONAL

Overview:

Cincinnati can further lead by example by procuring compost for public projects like stormwater management, construction, and landscaping and choosing vendors that donate surplus food and recycle food scraps.

Updating procurement policies can:

- Build end markets for compost and encourage infrastructure development
- Replenish degraded soils and provide flooding control
- Lead to increased surplus food donation

Compost and Food Waste Related Procurement*

*Note that procurement and lead by example can be combined into one ordinance

Recommendation: Pass a municipal ordinance that adds food waste reduction practices to the environmentally preferable definition, update the procurement manual, develop and publish educational materials for city procurement officers. Implementation includes:

1. Update City Procurement Manual to specify which services and goods in the case of food procurement are considered environmentally preferable
2. Require any city agencies engaged in earth disturbing activities to purchase finished compost products

King County, WA ▪ Sacramento, CA ▪ Berkeley, CA ▪ Denver, CO
▪ Minneapolis, MN

Supporting NRDC resources:

- [Model Order on Municipal Leadership on Food Waste Reduction](#)
- [Model Compost Procurement Policy](#)



Related GCP priorities:

City Operations | Food | Zero Waste

AMBITIOUS

Overview:

Requiring organizations and companies that produce large amounts of food waste to report waste is a key first step in reducing waste.

Mandatory reporting can:

- 1) Provide data tracked over time
- 2) Increase awareness among businesses and the public about the problem of food waste
- 3) Highlight the potential for increased food donation and organics recycling.

Mandatory Reporting for Large Food Waste Generators

Recommendation: Pass a municipal ordinance requiring covered entities (e.g. businesses, nonprofits, organizations that generate a total designated tonnage of food waste) report on food waste and surplus food generated for and how those materials were managed (e.g. donated, recycled, landfilled).

An ordinance requiring reporting could be added to the Business Regulation Title of the Cincinnati Code, Title VIII.

New York City, NY ▪ Austin, TX ▪ Washington, D.C.

Supporting NRDC resources:

- [Model Ordinance on Mandatory Reporting for Large Food Waste Generators](#)



Related GCP priorities:

Food | **Zero Waste**

TRANSFORMATIONAL

Overview:

Over 7,000 U.S. municipalities have implemented Pay-As-You-Throw waste structures. Pay-As-You-Throw benefits include:

- 1) Decreasing landfilling and incineration in favor of source reduction and recycling
- 2) Promoting transparency, efficiency, and fairness by charging households based on the amount of waste generated
- 3) Encouraging job creating and reducing truck traffic
- 4) Creating a self-funding system that can save money for the city

Pay-as-you-Throw (Residential)

Recommendation: Establish a Pay-As-You-Throw pricing structure in Cincinnati. Implementation recommendations include:

1. Update the City Charter to remove Article XVI that currently forbids the City from charging properties for garbage collection and requires city spending from the general fund.
2. Update Chapter 729 of the municipal code for residential waste to require households to pay a rate for garbage collection.
 1. State that residential dwellings must pay a scaled rate for garbage collection services as part of their existing duty to place their waste in proper containers.
 2. Specify the rate in ordinance or the ordinance give the city manager or another officer the power to set these rates.

Seattle, WA ▪ Denver, CO ▪ Fayetteville, AR ▪ Bellefontaine, OH ▪
Cleveland, OH ▪

Supporting NRDC resources:

- [Model Ordinance Establishing a Pay-As-You-Throw Program for Residential Municipal Solid Waste](#)



Related GCP priorities:
Food | **Zero Waste**

TRANSFORMATIONAL

Overview:

Mandatory organics recycling laws which require businesses to recycle their organic waste (and, in some cases, donate surplus food).

These laws can lead to:

- Job creation
- Expansion of organics recycling collection and processing infrastructure
- Lower costs associated with sending material to landfill, and greenhouse gas reductions.
- Increasing the amount of surplus food rescued and redistributed

Mandatory Organics Recycling

Recommendation: Pass a municipal ordinance in Cincinnati requiring food waste generators to send their organic material to pathways other than landfill. Cincinnati requires all commercial waste to be hauled to disposal sites at the expense of the waste generator in Municipal Code section 729-59.

Recommendation includes:

- Update section to require that commercial entities have an organics hauler
- Add definitions for organic waste, specifying generators that the regulation applies to, and clarifying that organic material must not be sent to landfill and generators must make other arrangements to prevent waste.

San Francisco, CA ▪ Denver, CO ▪ Austin, TX ▪ Seattle, WA ▪ Washington, D.C. ▪ New York City, NY ▪ Portland, OR

Supporting NRDC resources:

1. [Zero Food Waste Coalition State Policy Toolkit](#)



Related GCP priorities:

City Operations | Food | Zero Waste

Funding recommendations and opportunities

Recommendations to advance food waste goal:

1. Secure general funding for a staff position focused primarily on food waste reduction
 - Examples: Denver, CO ▪ Baltimore, MD
 - NRDC Resource: [Guide to Hiring a City Food Waste Coordinator](#)
2. Fund food waste infrastructure that is complimentary to policy action
 - Cincinnati recently secured \$400k for composting and food rescue

Upcoming state and federal grant opportunities:

1. [Solid Waste Infrastructure for Recycling \(SWIFR\), EPA](#): Application deadline is **December 20, 2024**
2. [Community Food Projects Competitive Grant Program, USDA](#): Application deadline is **November 6, 2024**
3. [Environmental & Climate Justice Community Change Grants, EPA](#): Application deadline is **November 21, 2024**
4. [Recycle Ohio Grant, Ohio EPA](#): Application deadline is **December 6, 2024**

Supporting NRDC resources:

1. [Federal food waste grants database](#)
2. [Guide for funding food scrap recycling](#)

**OH, THE
POSSIBILITIES!**

THANK YOU

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Anya Obrez, Advocacy Associate,
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<https://www.nrdc.org/food-waste-reduction>



SAVETHEFOOD.COM





Cradle Cincinnati & Queens Village:

Promoting Infant and Maternal Health
in Hamilton County

Josselyn Okorodudu

Director of Community Strategies

October 8, 2024



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.

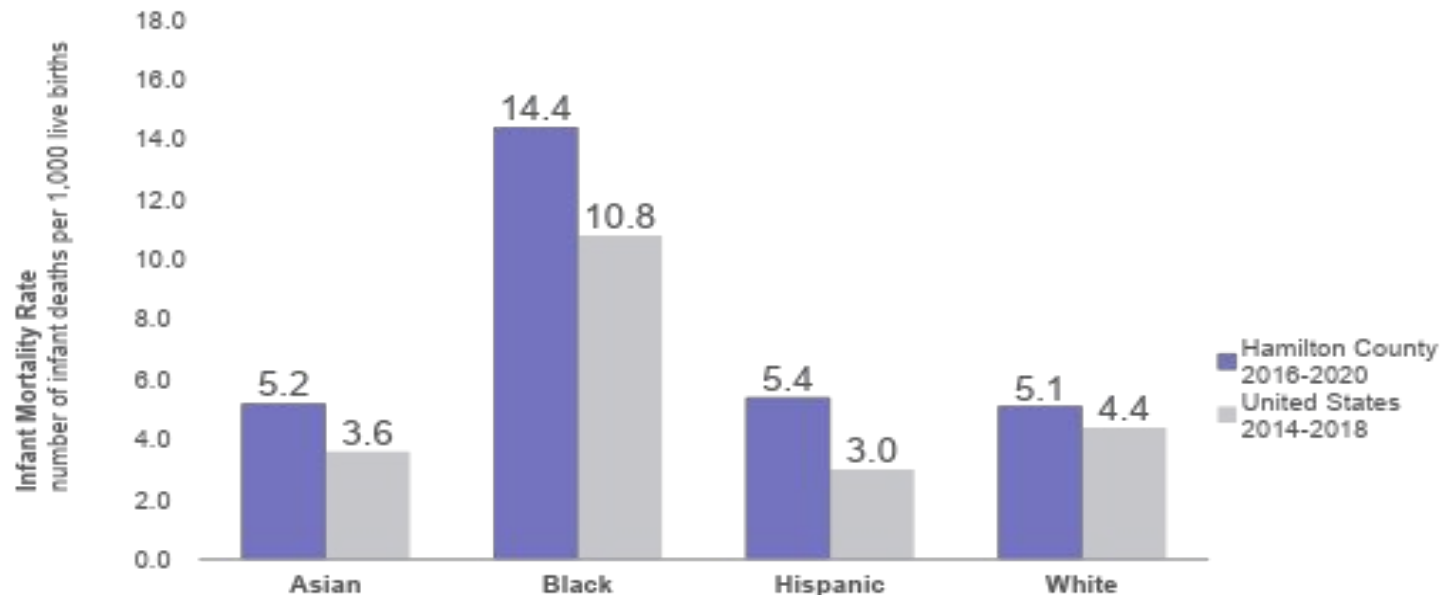
Mission: To reduce infant mortality in Hamilton County by focusing on prevention and improving health outcomes for mothers and babies.

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

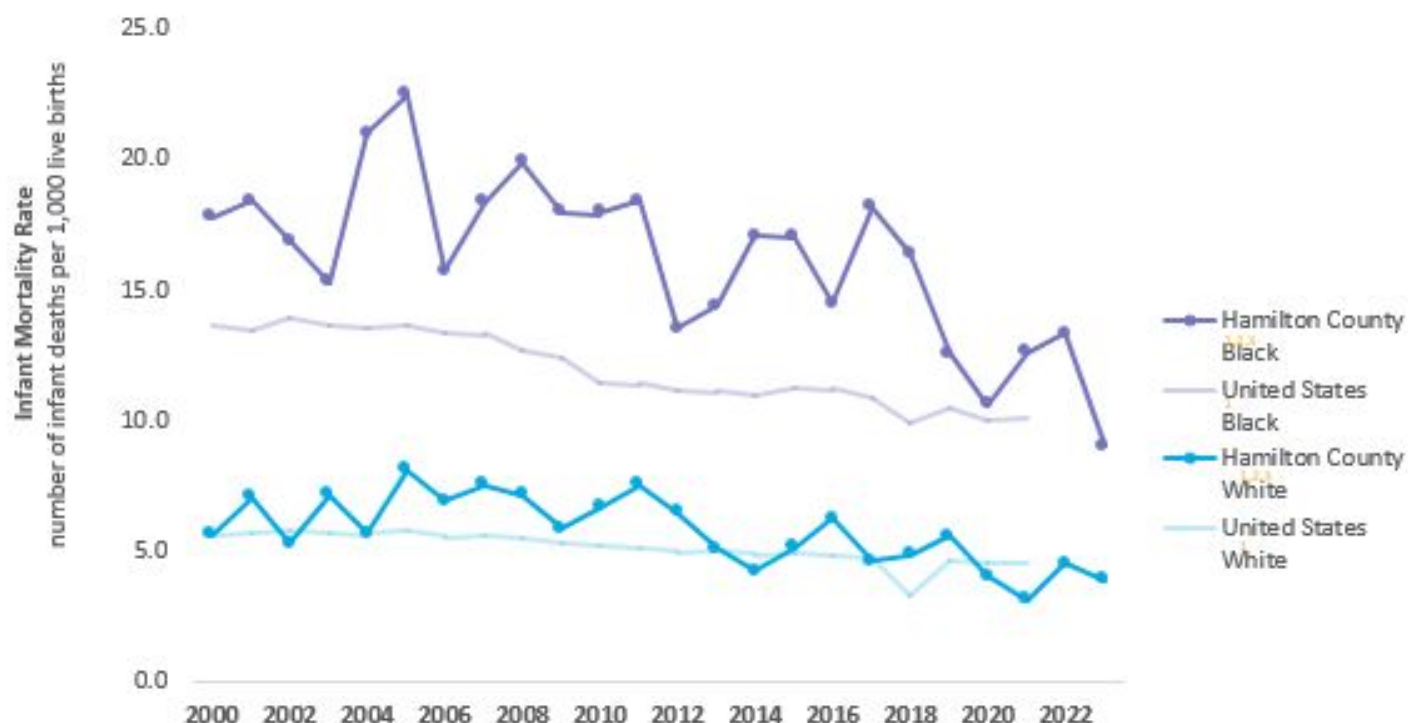
- Offering Opportunities to Rest, Relax, and Repower
- Changing the Narrative
- Investing in Black Women's Leadership
- Creating Economic and Professional Opportunities and Pathways
- Engaging in Social, Political, and Medical Communities



QUEENS VILLAGE Theory of Change



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

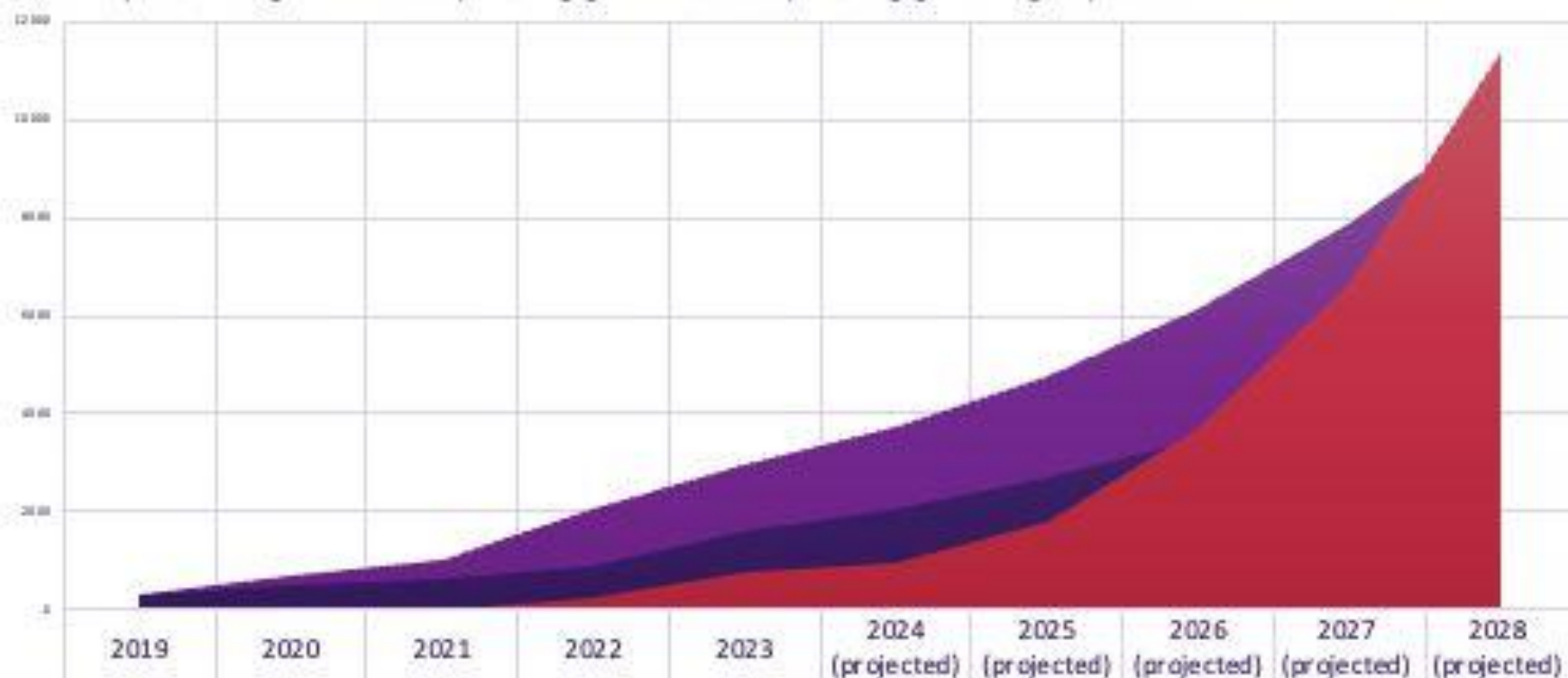


Queens Village

Black Women Participants reached 2019 – 20228

Queens Village Engagement - 2019 – 2026

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



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

Josselyn Okorodudu, Director of Community Strategies
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Queens Village

Website: blackwomenforthewin.com

Social Media: @QueensVillageCincy (Instagram, Facebook)

Cradle Cincinnati

Website: cradlecincinnati.org

Social Media: @CradleCincinnati (Instagram, Facebook)

