EXTENDING POSTPARTUM COVERAGE IN MISSOURI HELPS NEW MOMS AND BABIES THRIVE



IT'S TIME TO FIX MISSOURI'S MATERNAL HEALTH CRISIS

• Maternal mortality rates in Missouri are 20% higher than the national average.¹ Between 2017-2019, 150 Missouri women died in the year following their pregnancy. 118 of those women died AFTER the first 43 days, just before women with MO HealthNet lose their coverage at 60 days postpartum.²



- Women with MO HealthNet health insurance lose their coverage only 60 days after the end of pregnancy. We must extend coverage to 12 months for the 4,565 Missouri women who have no other way to get coverage.³
- Black moms in Missouri are disproportionately impacted by this crisis, with maternal mortality rates 3x those of white moms.
- Women experience significant physical and mental health risks in the year after pregnancy. That's why the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG) recommends regular postpartum check-ups: In the first 3 weeks, no later than 12 weeks and, on a case-by-case basis for up to a full year. Every Missouri mother deserves that care.
- When new moms have access to care, their newborns are more likely to receive regular well-child visits, early screenings, and support that sets them on the path to grow and thrive.⁴

LET'S BUILD ON BIPARTISAN PROGRESS FOR MISSOURI MOMS AND BABIES

• In 2019, Missouri expanded on postpartum health coverage for new moms in treatment for substance use disorders. We should give all moms in Missouri the same opportunity to care for themselves and their babies.

SUPPORTING POSTPARTUM COVERAGE HELPS NEW MOMS AND BABIES THRIVE-A smart investment for Missouri.

- 1 (2022). *Health of Women and Children Report, Missouri State Summary*. United Health Foundation, America's Health Rankings. https://www.americashealthrankings.org/learn/reports/2022-health-of-women-and-children-report
- 2 (2022). A Multi Year Look at Maternal Mortality in Missouri, 2017-2019 Pregnancy-associated Mortality Review: Annual Report. Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services. <u>https://health.mo.gov/data/pamr/pdf/2019-annual-report.pdf</u>
- 3 (2022). *Committee on Legislative Research Oversight Division Fiscal Note*. Missouri Senate. https://senate.mo.gov/FiscalNotes/2022-1/4343S.02C.ORG.pdf
- 4 Searing, A., Ross, D. (2019). *Medicaid Expansion Fills Gaps in Maternal Health Coverage Leading to Healthier Mothers and Babies*. Georgetown University Health Policy Institute Center for Children and Families. <u>https://ccf.georgetown.edu/2019/05/09/medicaid-</u> <u>expansion-fills-gaps-in-maternal-health-coverage-leading-to-healthier-mothers-and-babies/</u>

