

# Joy and Justice in Action

## MOVING THE MI MOMNIBUS

The  
STATE  
of BIRTH  
JUSTICE

### AGENDA

1.

#### Welcome

Elon Geffrard, Birth Detroit & Aisha Wells, Mothering Justice

2.

#### Introductions

Kanika Harris, Birth Detroit Advisory Council

3.

#### *"Our Bodies Belong to Us: Restoring Black Autonomy and Joy!"* Black Maternal Health Week, 2023

Leseliey Welch, Birth Detroit

4.

#### Introducing Michigan Chamber for Reproductive Justice

Cassy Jones-McBride

5.

#### Moving the Michigan Momnibus

*How did we get here?*

Elon Geffrard, Birth Detroit

*Where are we going?*

Nicole White, Birth Detroit, Shanayl Bennett, Mothering Justice & Tatiana Omolo, Mothering Justice

6.

#### Change-maker Moment & Close

Elon Geffrard, Birth Detroit

1. Why are you fired up about the Momnibus
2. What will you/ can you do to make the Momnibus dream come true for Michigan?

Answer here



#### HASHTAGS:

#JoyandJustice

#BMWH23

#MIMomnibus

*In 2022, we asked a few questions of our community. Here is what we heard and what has inspired the crafting of the Michigan Momnibus.*

**If you could snap your fingers and have a policy change around birth justice, what would it be?**

- Licensure for birth centers in Michigan
- Being in control of the way you birth
- Birth centers accessible by taking all insurances for eligible births.
- Midwives (CNM & CPM) able to practice in community and receive reimbursement.
- Better education for new parents, longer time with babies, listening more to the person giving birth
- Supportive and inclusive policy around birthing mothers to learn and birth however they want
- Insurance acceptance of all birth workers and choices
- Allowing moms the option to have home or freestanding birth center births without restrictions caused by financial access

**What does birth justice mean to you?**

- Birth justice is where everyone has access to a safe birth and all of the options available to them
- A human right to maintain personal bodily autonomy
- A system of birth that we do not need to recover from
- Safe, respectful, equitable maternity care for ALL- but especially Black and Brown bodies
- Putting pregnancy, labor, parturition, and postpartum care back into the hands of our birthing people and our community
- The resources and access for every person to have birth experience that supports and affirms them

