

A BLACK WOMAN'S GUIDE TO SELECTING A PROVIDER

#### WELCOME TO MOMMY-FRIENDLY DETROIT!

The place that honors black motherhood and acknowledges your life. In the Motor City, your humanity is core to who you are; your birthright. We make a BIG deal about pregnancy and birth each and every time, because it is a BIG deal each and every time. Use this pocket guide as an easy tool to help you advocate for your health and the health of your baby.

#### WANT MORE INFO?

Contact the co-creators, W.K. Kellogg Foundation's Community Leadership Network Class 1 Fellows:

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#### **BE CHOOSY**

- □ Find out more about your provider.
- □ You have the right to choose your provider.
- You may very likely be able to change your provider from the one that was assigned to you.
- Shop around for a provider that meets your wants and needs.
- Ask friends and family for ideas based on who they like.
- Search for reviews on places like Yelp or other websites.
- Request 1-on-1 consultation before your first appointment.

#### THINGS TO CONSIDER

- Where is the provider located? What are their hours? Is there a parking fee?
- Which hospital does the provider use?
- Do you prefer a male or female provider?
- Does the provider block out time for same day appointments?
- Is the office staff friendly, professional, and helpful?
- Do they accept your health insurance?



#### WHAT IS A CONSULTATION?

Think of it as "courting" or swiping left/right. It is a time for you and your provider to get to know one another before taking the next step. During the consultation there may not be an exam. Just talk.



#### QUESTIONS TO ASK DURING CONSULTATION

- What is your average wait time?
- What is the average amount of time that you spend with each patient?
- How do you make each patient feel like an individual?
- If I have questions between appointments, how do I get them answered?
- What do you expect from me as a patient?
- How would your best friend describe you?

#### CONSULTATION QUESTIONS FOR PREGNANT WOMEN

- How many people are allowed in the delivery room?
- What are your thoughts about breastfeeding?
- What is your C-Section rate?

- How do you feel about doula care?
- In what ways do you limit medical interventions during labor and birth?
- Will you be the actual provider that delivers my baby?
- What do you do to honor birthing plans?
- What recommendations do you make for family planning immediately following delivery?

#### BEING

# **MOMMY-FRIENDLY**

means that women are

**RECOGNIZED AS PARTNERS** 

IN THEIR HEALTH CARE.

WOMEN ARE

#### ACKNOWLEDGED AS DYNAMIC THOUGH IMPERFECT,

THAT MUTUAL RESPECT IS A DESIRED OUTCOME,

THAT

### HEALTHY BABIES ARE A DIRECT RESULT OF HEALTHY MOTHERS, AND THAT THERE IS

# DIGNITY & HONOR INHERENT IN MOTHERHOOD

### FOR ALL WOMEN.