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# SISTA MIDWIFE PRODUCTIONS

**THANK YOU  
TO OUR  
DONORS &  
SUPPORTERS**

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## 2020 IMPACT REPORT



# A YEAR OF TRANSITION

In Spite of the Transitions, we still made A LOT happen.

It goes without saying that 2020 was an unprecedented year full of transition, change, and realignment for all of us individually and collectively. Here at Sista Midwife Productions, we definitely felt the shift!

In spite of the challenges, the changes, and the uncertainty, we are proud to say that we continued forward. We continued to support, train, inspire, elevate and spread the word about solutions for improving Black maternal health outcomes.

Some of the changes we implemented are becoming a permanent part of our service model. For others we are continuing to contemplate how we will re-create them inside the current landscape of life. We made the difficult decision to put our popular Birth Story

Project initiative on hold. We canceled our in-person doula training and moved to an online platform and we revamped The Art of Birthing and created a National Virtually Vibin' Experience.

Thanks to a grant from the Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Louisiana Foundation we created community-based perinatal community health worker training initiative. And we continue to serve as advisor and mentor to countless new and experienced birth workers and organizations.

In spite of it all, 2020 ended on a high note. We connected to and strengthened relationships with new partners who are also working to shift the paradigm around the birthing experiences of black families. We are proud of the work we have been able to do and this report celebrates our wins!



BIRTH IS THE  
REVOLUTION



# A NEW ENDEAVOR

## Healthy Birth Louisiana : Making the Case for Better Birth

One of the most significant accomplishments of 2020 was the launch of our Healthy Birth Louisiana Initiative. Through this initiative, our goal is to train a cohort of Healthy Birth Ambassadors for all nine of the Louisiana Department of Health's public health regions.

Across the country, there are models that demonstrate the effectiveness of using perinatal community health workers (PCHWs) to improve outcomes and eliminate disparities. We believe that by providing Louisiana's communities access to PCHWs we can offer a high impact intervention that targets the health indicators that drive disparities.

Healthy Birth Ambassadors (HBA) are PCHWs who live and work in the same community. HBAs have a desire to make birth better for the families in their communities and they understand that how we give birth directly impacts how we parent and how we show up in life and in society.

We believe through community connections, advocacy, service, and education our Healthy Birth Ambassadors can improve birth outcomes for our state.



### OUR CURRICULUM PROVIDES THE TRAINING, INFORMATION, AND SUPPORT FOR EACH HBA TO BECOME:

**CHILD  
BIRTH  
EDUCATORS**

**PREGNANCY  
&  
INFANT LOSS  
ADVOCATES**

**CERTIFIED  
DOULAS**

**CERTIFIED  
BREAST-  
FEEDING  
SPECIALISTS**

**COMMUNITY  
HEALTH  
WORKERS**

# A MESSAGE FROM OUR FOUNDER

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## Where Do We Go From Here? Looking Forward to 2021 & Beyond

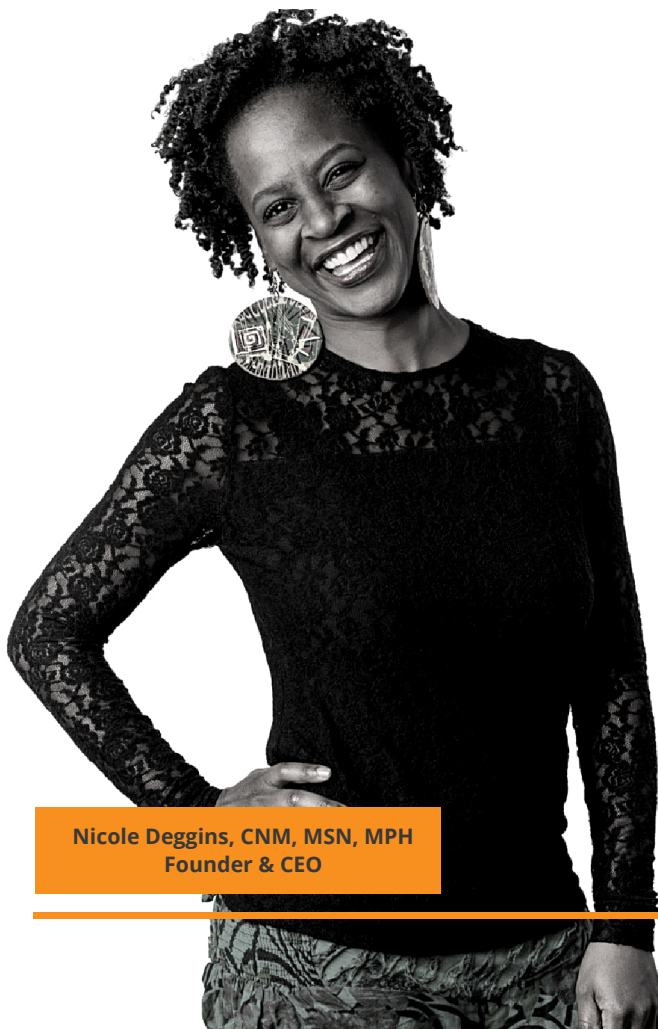
When I started Sista Midwife Productions I had one goal in mind, to provide information and support to families so they could experience better birth outcomes. While our work to date has been successful we still need your support because the work and the fight are not over!!!

We are committed to continuing our work to train and elevate the voices of black birth workers, and black families. We know that we are not in this alone and we thank you for your donations and your support as we continue to advocate for families in Louisiana and across the country.

It is through your gracious support that we can continue to combat the racial disparities and inequities that Black women and families face before, during, and after childbirth.

On behalf of the entire Sista Midwife Productions' Team I want to say

# THANK YOU!



Nicole Deggins, CNM, MSN, MPH  
Founder & CEO

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