



HMHBGA Uplifts Community Voices to Advance Policies to Improve MCH Outcomes

For over 50 years, the Healthy Mothers, Healthy Babies Coalition of Georgia (HMHBGA) has worked to improve access to healthcare and outcomes for thousands of women and infants across the state. At the center of their efforts is uplifting community voices to raise awareness and advance policies that make Georgia a safer place to be pregnant and have a baby.

Every January 23rd, HMHBGA hosts Maternal Health Awareness Day, a state-wide event that brings together health professionals, community members, and decision-makers at the state capitol to spotlight urgent maternal health issues. Through expert panels, community storytelling, and policy workshops, participants are informed, engaged, and activated in support of better maternal care before, during, and after pregnancy.

Throughout the year, HMHBGA invests in community leadership through its Mobilizing for Our Mothers (MOM) Cohort. This program trains women with lived experiences of maternal



health challenges to become community advocates. Members gain knowledge about state health policies, practice public speaking and advocacy skills, and meet directly with policymakers.

“The MOM Cohort is one of the most powerful parts of Maternal Health Awareness Day. It is so exciting to see moms from around the state come to the Capitol and recognize that they have a voice and can speak directly to lawmakers. They bring lived experience that help inform policy makers that can lead to better outcomes across Georgia.” - Margaret Master, Interim Executive Director, HMHBGA

HMHBGA’s approach highlights the value of:

- Building community members’ capacity to effectively advocate for supportive policies
- Creating events that inform, engage, and activate diverse stakeholders
- Sharing lived experience to help health professionals and policy makers understand why and how to strengthen MCH outcomes

To uplift your community’s voice in advancing policies that support families, connect with organizations leading advocacy efforts to improve MCH in your area, and visit [HMHBGA](#).

If you are new to policy work, start by visiting the [Association of Maternal & Child Health Programs](#).

