

AFRICAN AMERICAN BREASTFEEDING NETWORK, INC

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TWO THOUSAND TWENTY | 2020

# COMMUNITY ANNUAL REPORT

# YOU ARE TRANSFORMING LIVES



## **A MESSAGE FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ~ YOU'VE TRANSFORMED LIVES IN THE MIDST OF A PANDEMIC**

With your help, AABN has continued to transform lives even in the midst of a global pandemic! In 2020 we dug deep within ourselves to figure how to come out on top in this unprecedented year and we won! The impact you're making on the lives of women, infants, and families we serve is essential and life-altering and has allowed AABN to enhance our mission impact work of improving maternal-infant health and champion breastfeeding equity. We are grateful that you didn't turn your backs on us as we faced the urgency of programmatic changes and realignment so that the lives we touched can be transformed. Through your generosity, AABN was able to provide services to 178 pregnant women and 24 fathers! Before the stay-at-home-order was issued due to COVID-19 we were fortunate to complete a 3-day training with 8 women to become Doula Ambassadors, so they could

share through Zoom presentations the value of doula-assisted births. For the first time, AABN is providing access to life-changing support and labor-assisted-births, through our WeRISE Doula pilot which served 30 Black women, and is on track to serve a total of 100 women. Whining down the year, AABN excelled in its fundraising initiative during our giving campaign by generating \$8,427.86. This is big news for a small organization of our size! None of the things that mattered this year would have emerged without your support. As one of the few women-operated nonprofits improving the lives of historically oppressed Black and Indigenous People of Color, AABN is undergoing huge growth and broadening our horizons. Looking forward to 2021, our organization is branching out and taking advantage of new opportunities to help us deliver services to our target population and assist in addressing some of the health care disparities they face. Your help has enabled our mission impact to remain viable and relevant for current issues faced by pregnant and birthing people! Keep reading our 2020 Community Annual Report to discover all that you have done to abundantly transform lives!

Thank you!

*Dalvery Blackwell*

Sincerely,  
Dalvery Blackwell  
Executive Director



## MEET OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Our Board of Directors is comprised of community and national leaders with expertise in a wide range of areas, including training, advocacy, healthcare, education, finance, law, fund development, and business management. The board is responsible for taking care of the strategic and financial health of the organization on an ongoing basis.



**Alice Pugh**  
Community  
Member



**Felice Green**  
Board President



**LaToya Dennis**  
Treasurer  
Milwaukee  
Public Radio



**Alyson Lippman**  
Secretary  
UW-Milwaukee  
College of  
Nursing



**Rosalyn McFarland**  
Member  
Wisconsin Assoc.  
of Nurse Practitioners

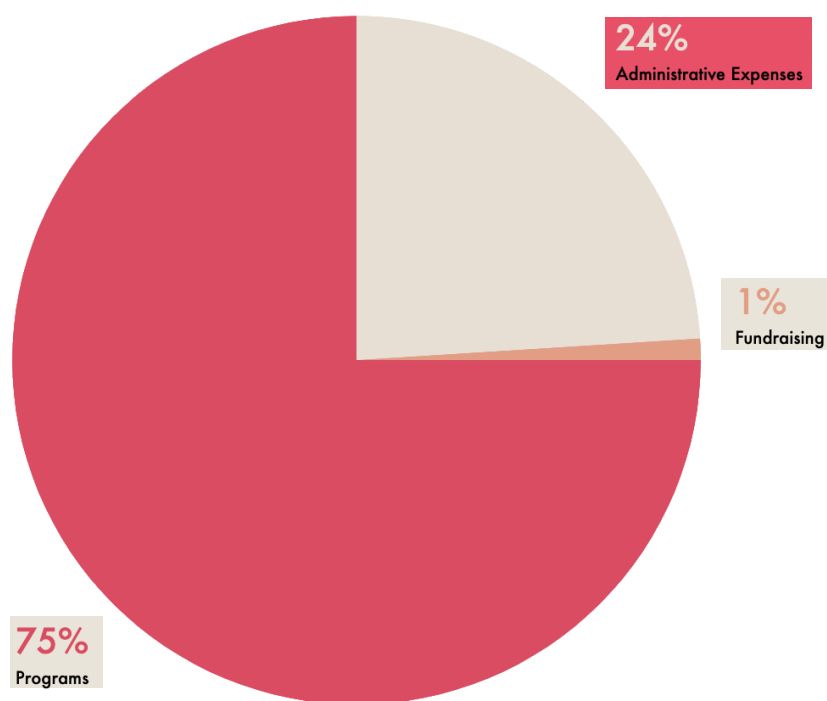
**WE THANK YOU FOR HELPING  
US TRANSFORM LIVES!**

## FY 2020 FINANCIAL REPORTS

# HOW WERE YOUR GIFTS USED?

The need to support pregnant and birthing people/families are greater now than ever before. Every dollar received supports our core programming and improves maternal-infant health!

- Breastfeeding Peer Counseling/Lactation Services
- Perinatal Loss Support
- Father Maternal-Infant Connectedness
- Community-Based Doula Support



|                                    |                      |
|------------------------------------|----------------------|
| <b>Revenue &amp; Support</b>       |                      |
| Government Grants                  | \$ 155,050.00        |
| Foundation Grants                  | \$ 46,261.63         |
| Sponsorships                       | \$ 14,731.00         |
| Individual Donations               | \$ 7,580.43          |
| Special Events                     | \$ 795.00            |
| <b>Total Revenue &amp; Support</b> | <b>\$ 224,418.06</b> |
|                                    |                      |
| Program Expense                    | \$173,849.06         |
| General & Administrative Expense   | \$35,462.46          |
| Fundraising Expense                | \$626.55             |
| <b>Total Expenses</b>              | <b>\$209,938.08</b>  |
|                                    |                      |
| Change in Net Assets               | \$14,479.98          |
| Net Assets, Beginning of the Year  | \$1,373.02           |
| Net Assets, End of the Year        | \$13,106.96          |

# WHY I GIVE

I donate to AABN because I see first-hand the organization's impact and the lives transformed through support. As a Black woman who is the first to breastfeed in my family, it was very important to surround myself with people who look like me! Also, I love that AABN gives free breastfeeding supplies, and the workers are glad to deliver these supplies to the homes of women in the community!



JOHNNA TIDWELL &  
DAUGHTER, SUNSHINE  
AABN DONOR

The AABN community is full of dedicated, passionate, awe-inspiring individuals who are making real change happen to support real families every single day. I donate to AABN because I know my contributions will go towards supporting an incredible team of individuals doing great work in the Milwaukee community.



JESSICA OLSON  
AABN DONOR

[AABNETWORK.ORG/DONATE](https://AABNETWORK.ORG/DONATE)



## Year in Review



- Trained **8** doula ambassadors to present 12 community conversations about the value of doula assisted births reaching over **1,000** Zoom viewers
- Transitioned 24 breastfeeding classes to virtual spaces of support reaching **78** pregnant moms
- Helped train **25** women in the community for the WeRISE Doula's services
- Distributed **500** Mommy/Baby Care Packages
- Launched Father2Father peer support for new dads
- Raised more money than ever before — \$ 8,427.86 (exceeding our goal by \$5,000)
- **30** pregnant mothers matched with a WeRISE Doula
- Host 1st Perinatal Loss Webinar attracting **55** Advocates around the globe, and 1st Wave of Light & Expression of Memory perinatal loss ceremony for **30** bereaved families
- **178** pregnant mothers received positive messages about breastfeeding
- **46** mothers attended Community Breastfeeding Gatherings
- **24** Fathers attended Father2Father Sessions

**Cover Page:** *Zakiya Courtney, performing opening ceremony during Lift Up Every Baby*

**Page 5:** *Precious Shropshire; The Bealin Family: (Niyoma, Niya, Dakoi, Dakota) Shovonte & DeAngelo, Terri Simmons, RN/Doula (WeRISE Doula/RN Consultant)*

**Back Page:** *Deterrias Greer and Manuel Webb*


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African American  
Breastfeeding Network Inc.

PO BOX 1979  
Milwaukee, WI 53201  
(414) 617-3441  
[www.aabnetwork.org](http://www.aabnetwork.org)



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BREASTFEEDING  
NETWORK



**FAMILIES  
MAKE  
THE WORLD  
GO ROUND!**



**LOVE &  
SUPPORT  
KNOWS NO  
DISTANCE!**

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## MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of AABN is to improve maternal child health and champion breastfeeding equity by (1) advocating system/policy changes, (2) partnering with allies, and creating family-centered, culturally tailored health education and support services.

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