Alabama mothers are dying.

In 2016, **36 mothers lost their lives** within one year of the end of pregnancy. That's 36 communities, 36 families which were affected. **It's 36 too many.**

Pregnancy-Associated Mortality Ratio: **38.9 deaths** per 100,000 live births Pregnancy-Related Mortality Ratio: **22.0 deaths** per 100,000 live births

2016 AL Maternal Mortality Findings Among Pregnancy-Associated & Pregnancy-Related Cases:*

Timing of Deaths:



Preventability:

of all deaths determined to be preventable

Contributing Factors:

Mental Health:

A contributor in 42% of the deaths

Substance Use Disorder:

A contributor in 47% of the deaths

Call to Action – What We Can All Do to Help Combat Maternal Mortality

- Providers: Truly hear her (<u>cdc.gov/hearher/healthcare-providers/index.html</u>) voice. Listen to patients' concerns and avoid relating issues to changes associated with pregnancy. Get educated on important topics which impact maternal health, including postpartum danger signs and symptoms, cardiomyopathy, postpartum hemorrhage, and massive transfusion protocols. Patient care, management, and coordination is essential in combatting this public health issue.
- Moms: Learn the urgent maternal warning signs (<u>cdc.gov/hearher/maternal-warning-signs/index.html</u>) and speak up if you experience any signs/symptoms. Plan ahead for your pregnancy by managing chronic conditions and optimizing health.
- Legislators: policies and legislation must support maternal health, including Medicaid expansion, mental health and substance use disorder resources, and funding for autopsies.
- Communities: support mothers you know throughout and after pregnancies. A strong support system is important in maternal health.
- Racism and discrimination have no place in healthcare systems – these factors, which continue to significantly impact maternal mortality and morbidity, must be addressed and eliminated.

Mobilize Resources. Empower Mothers. Strengthen Systems and Communities.

Mitigate Maternal Mortality.

alabamapublichealth.gov/perinatal





