African American Babies Coalition & Projects

Fiscal Year 2026 – Outstanding Community Organization Award Recipient

AABC catalyzes the community

239 people attended the 2025 Black & Brown Birthing Summit, featuring Dr. West Olatunji of the Center for Traumatic Stress Research and Ken L. Harris, maternal and paternal health expert

100% said the 2025 Black & Brown Birthing Summit **increased their motivation** to address disparities and systemic racism

90% were **very satisfied** with the 2025 Summit

I have been so deeply changed by the two summits I've attended. It has changed the trajectory of my work as both a provider and leader in a large health care organization. It has deepened my desire to make systematic change and continue to fight against racism and elevate the voices of black and brown people. – BBB Summit Attendee

95 people engaged in **Black Maternal Health Week** – Rooted in Justice & Joy

18 community members engaged in the **Safer Birthing Consortium**

AABC supports BIPOC families and underserved mothers

77 mothers received **meals** during the postpartum period through doulas and public health nurses

All (7) doulas said the Gentle Postpartum Program **reduced stress** for their clients

11 families received **home visits** through Family Spirit

112 expecting families attended the **Community Baby Showers** and received resources to support their new babies

AABC trains professionals with knowledge and skills to improve care for BIPOC mothers and babies

AABC offered **six trainings in 2026 – 53 professionals** attended.

2 Community Conversation Host trainings

2 Moving Beyond Crisis training series

1 Community Outreach Perinatal Educator series

1 Birthing Fruition 5 Prong training series

100% of training attendees said AABC training **increased their motivation** to address disparities and systemic racism

95% of training attendees were **very satisfied** with the training they attended

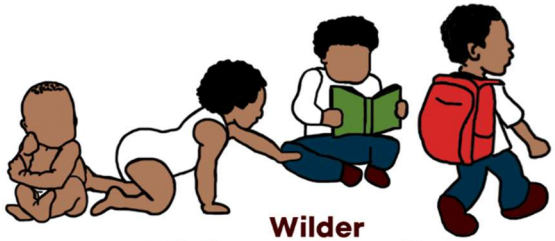
The biggest takeaways attendees had from training are increased understanding of how culture and trauma inform parenting practices, the importance of being unbiased, and value of transformational relationships.

AABC does outreach on key laws to benefit families

16 participants attended **DEED Paid Leave** engagement events and reported increased knowledge of Paid Leave benefits and eligibility, and likelihood they would access benefits

AABC is responsive to the community

- AABC is launching the **Integrated Care for High-Risk Pregnancies** program in partnership with Planned Parenthood of Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota (PPMNS), and Ramsey County Public Health.
- The **Safer Birthing Consortium** is expanding and will be used to inform the development and implementation of AABC programming.
- Surveys with community members indicate that **training on family crisis and support topics** are of top interest; this will inform future trainings.
- AABC is conducting discussions with parents to document the **impacts of Operation Metro Surge** on expecting and new parents to inform future programming.
- By keeping presenters fresh and offering continuing education hours, AABC hopes to **increase completion of training series** with multiple sessions.
- AABC is partnering with Wilder Research to implement **participatory evaluation** with training attendees to measure longer-term impact of trainings.



AABC was awarded the **2026 Outstanding Community Organization Award** by the Minnesota Perinatal Quality Collaborative.