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4	ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON INFANT
5	AND MATERNAL MORTALITY (ACIMM)
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10	Social Drivers of Health Workgroup Meeting
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14	
15	Health Resources and Service Administration Building
16	5600 Fishers Lane
17	Rockville, MD 20857
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22	Thursday, June 27, 2024
23	1:15 p.m 2:45 p.m.
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- 2 00:00 00:31
- 3 Marie Elizabeth Ramas
- 4 While we're waiting on the virtual side, why don't we start
- 5 putting in the chat some reflections over the last couple days?
- 6 Ideas that may have resonated with you when it comes to social
- 7 determinants. and, you know, things that you would like to
- 8 discuss a little bit closer during our now hour that we have.
- 9 Does that sound like a plan for virtual folks as for sake of
- 10 time? I see a head nod.

- **12** 00:33 00:38
- 13 Marie Elizabeth Ramas
- 14 Excellent. Thanks, Belinda.

15

- **16** 00:41 01:04
- 17 Marie Elizabeth Ramas
- 18 I'm not sure, Belinda and team on site, how much you heard, but
- 19 I was just encouraging those who are virtual to put in the chat
- 20 any things that may have resonated over the last couple of days
- 21 as it relates to social drivers of health. Or any topics that
- 22 they would like to cover in this next hour.

23

- **24** 01:10 01:11
- 25 Marie Elizabeth Ramas
- 26 Sherri, did you hear that?

- **28** 01:14 01:15
- 29 Sherri Alderman
- 30 Yes.

- **1** 01:18 02:06
- 2 Marie Elizabeth Ramas
- 3 Okay, I heard a whisper, from your end, so, I can see things are
- 4 coming in, okay. And, for those who are on virtually, just give
- 5 me a thumbs up to make sure that you heard my thoughts and --
- 6 for that matter, I see we have 23 participants now, it might be
- 7 helpful to give a brief introduction of who you are, so I can
- 8 know who's observing versus who is not. Okay.

- **10** 02:08 02:10
- 11 Belinda Pettiford
- 12 Marie, we can hear you all now.
- **13** 02:15 02:44
- 14 Marie Elizabeth Ramas
- 15 Awesome, Belinda, great. All right, well, with that, then,
- 16 Sherri and I want to thank you all for showing your interest in
- 17 the Social Drivers of Health group. I'm not sure if everyone had
- 18 access to our general summary pages, but I can put that and
- 19 share that on my screen, with some of the topics of discussion
- 20 that we had.

- **22** 02:45 03:33
- 23 Marie Elizabeth Ramas
- 24 But before we do that, it looks like ShaRhonda had some
- 25 interesting readings on light pollution and its effect on
- 26 pregnant people, and I wasn't sure if anyone else had some take
- 27 home points, messages, or if you wanted to bring up any other
- 28 references or resources for myself and Sherry and subcommittee
- 29 to consider. So for now, let's, let's take -- if I may, let's
- 30 take the next five minutes or so just to have an open floor and
- 31 I'll trust Belinda and team to let me know who's able to engage
- 32 and speak versus those who are observing.

- 1 03:35 03:51
- 2 Marie Elizabeth Ramas
- 3 So I think probably the easiest thing would be to just come off
- 4 of mute, or you can raise your hand if you want. Just, like, to
- 5 say something. And ShaRhonda, if you want to go first, maybe
- 6 that'll help with stimulating discussion.

- 8 03:53 03:59
- 9 ShaRhonda Thompson
- 10 Hello. Am I just introducing myself or do you want me --

11

- **12** 03:59 04:16
- 13 Marie Elizabeth Ramas
- 14 Yeah, ShaRhonda, if you if you want to start off with what you
- 15 wrote in the chat and for others, if you want to introduce
- 16 yourself in the chat and start thinking about, anything else
- 17 that may have resonated over the last couple of days as we are
- 18 discussing, to report back.

19

- 20 04:18 04:44
- 21 ShaRhonda Thompson
- 22 Oh, okay. My name is ShaRhonda Thompson, and I am a member of
- 23 the community. And I think that making sure that infants and
- 24 mothers get their best possible care will help brighten our
- 25 future for generations. So, that's my goal -- I want life to be
- 26 better for my children and their children. So I have to start
- 27 here.

- **29** 04:45 05:11
- 30 ShaRhonda Thompson
- 31 But, living in Saint Louis, you know, it's a lot of, heavily,
- 32 this light, you know, all over. And it became a topic of

- 1 interest for me because I don't know how it affects sleep.
- 2 Right? All of that light just everywhere. Street lights, all the
- 3 house lights -- everyone has lights around their houses, and I
- 4 know it affects sleep.

- **6** 05:12 05:57
- 7 ShaRhonda Thompson
- 8 So it just made me think, well, if it affects sleep for people
- 9 who aren't pregnant, how does it affect those mothers that are
- 10 having -- that they are pregnant, you know, being surrounded by
- 11 light at all times? And so I did read up on it, and I found some
- 12 articles that, you know, they were suggesting that, okay, all of
- 13 that light, all of that unnatural light actually is causing
- 14 harm.

15

- **16** 05:38 05:49
- 17 ShaRhonda Thompson
- 18 It may cause premature labor because the mother's not -- her
- 19 body's not sleeping properly, which means it's not healing
- 20 properly. And it just something that I thought was an
- 21 interesting topic, I think.

22

- **23** 05:50 05:54
- 24 Marie Elizabeth Ramas
- 25 Thank you, Sharonda.

- **27** 05:58 06:18
- 28 Marie Elizabeth Ramas
- 29 I'm not familiar with disparities related to the impact of light
- 30 pollution, but I'd be curious to know if there are any other
- 31 kind of environmental impacts that can lead to disparities.
- 32 Charleta? Are there...?

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1
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- **2** 06:20 06:28
- 3 Charleta Guillory
- 4 I don't have answers to that question, but I was going to start
- 5 something else, so I will wait until that question is answered.

- **7** 06:30 06:44
- 8 Charleta Guillory
- 9 I can tell you in the neonatal intensive care unit, we know that
- 10 light interferes with our baby supports so that many times we
- 11 have them, we have times when we cannot interrupt them with the
- 12 light. So it is important in the NICU.

13

- **14** 06:45 06:52
- 15 Marie Elizabeth Ramas
- 16 That's interesting. And is it more so from a -- so I'm curious,
- 17 being a family doctor.

18

- **19** 06:52 6:56
- 20 Marie Elizabeth Ramas
- 21 So can you speak a little bit more as to how that affects the
- 22 biology of a neonate?

- **24** 06:58 07:17
- 25 Charleta Guillory
- 26 Well, it certainly has to do with the sleeping pattern of the
- 27 babies and interrupting them during their sleep, especially
- 28 their deep sleep patterns. So that's the major portion that I
- 29 know of. Noise, of course, is another pollutant that that's very
- 30 important.

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1 07:17 - 07:29
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- 2 Charleta Guillory
- 3 We actually have hearing, you know, hearing it's for the
- 4 babies that are in the NICU hearing all of the different alarms
- 5 and opening up the isolates, et cetera.

- **7** 07:31 07:32
- 8 Marie Elizabeth Ramas
- 9 Okay. That's helpful,

10

- **11** 07:33 07:44
- 12 Charleta Guillory
- 13 But, anyway, my name is Charleta Guillory, and I'm a
- 14 Neonatologist in Texas Children's Hospital and a Professor of
- 15 Peds at Baylor College of Medicine.

16

- **17** 07:45 08:20
- 18 Charleta Guillory
- 19 And in terms of social determinants of health, for me, I, when I
- 20 heard your discussion earlier, my question that really resonated
- 21 with me is where are we screening for social determinants of
- 22 health? That was the first thing because we know the mothers
- 23 come in for, you know, in prenatal care. But I also know that
- 24 20% of those babies are delivered end up in the NICU where we
- 25 are talking about post-traumatic stress, right?

- **27** 08:22 08:44
- 28 Charleta Guillory
- 29 But tend to 10 to 20% will end up being in our nurseries. And I
- 30 know that depending on what sort of NICU you are, you may have
- 31 higher -- if you are referral center, you may even have higher
- 32 babies there. And I know that the mothers that are in the NICU,

```
1
    you have higher incidence of postpartum depression, they have
2
    high incidence --
3
4
    08:45 - 09:03
5
    Charleta Guillory
6
    We call the nursery a food desert, in the sense that they are
    not prepared to be there. It's very expensive to get food, and
7
8
    we don't serve food in the nursery. So this is really a food
9
    desert for our parents. So that's one of the things I was
10
    thinking --
11
12
    09:03 - 09:05
13
    Unknown
    Charleta, can you hear me?
14
15
16
    09:06 - 09:07
    Charletta Guillory
17
18
    Yes.
19
20
    09:08 - 09:12
21
    Unknown
22
    Okay, can you pause just one second? We're working on getting,
23
    we have an audio issue in here. We could hear you, and it just
24
    stopped. So give me just one second.
25
    09:13 - 09:14
26
27
    Charleta Guillory
28
    No problem.
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30 09:16 - 09:21

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Belinda Pettiford
1
    Marie, just continue the conversation while we work on our issue
2
    on this end.
3
4
5
    09:22 - 09:23
6
    Marie Elizabeth Ramas
7
    Thank you. Belinda.
8
9
    09:24 - 09:29
10
    Marie Elizabeth Ramas
    Charleta, the floor is yours again. Thank you for your patience.
11
12
    Is it Charleta or Charleta?
13
    09:29 - 09:30
14
15
    Charleta Guillory
    Oh, it's Charleta.
16
17
18
    09:31 - 09:33
19
    Marie Elizabeth Ramas
20
    Okay. Thank you.
21
22
    09:34 - 09:46
23
    Marie Elizabeth Ramas
24
    The floor is yours again if you had any additional comments,
25
    because I think that this is a unique perspective that's
26
    centered on the period -- the postnatal period.
27
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28 09:46 - 09:48

- 1 Marie Elizabeth Ramas
- 2 So I'd love to hear a little bit more from you.

- 4 09:48 10:08
- 5 Charleta Guillory
- 6 Well, just -- and again, as you guys spoke today, you had -- I
- 7 love the fact that you were thinking out the box in terms of
- 8 social determinants of health, but for me, I'm still at the
- 9 baseline. You know, for years we thought the NICU was, how can I
- 10 say that, that we didn't have racism.

11

- **12** 10:08 10:34
- 13 Charlotta
- 14 Nobody could possibly mistreat babies, right? So for years,
- 15 people thought that when you went into the nursery, you had no
- 16 problems. And but now we realize that's absolutely not true. And
- 17 so as we look at social determinants of health, we're at the
- 18 process of how do we screen our moms. We know they're at high
- 19 risk. We know that this is a special subgroup of moms who need
- 20 transportation, who needs food.

21

- **22** 10:35 11:01
- 23 Charlotta
- 24 Just basic things during this time. That's -- it's a very
- 25 expensive venture. and, we have to really step forward to make
- 26 sure that they are taken care of during this time. And not only
- 27 that, we have a major responsibility when they leave the NICU in
- 28 terms of it, used to be follow up care. Now we're talking about
- 29 how do we follow through to the next section.

- **31** 11:01 11:18
- 32 Charlotta

- 1 So all of these things are sort of important to me. But these
- 2 are basic things. You know, these are things you're thinking at
- 3 this level. And I'm still here at this level, just the basic
- 4 things that our parents need. That's all. Thank you.

- **6** 11:19 11:25
- 7 Marie Elizabeth Ramas
- 8 That's not all. That's a very pregnant, you know, aspect to
- 9 consider.

10

- **11** 11:26 11:55
- 12 Marie Elizabeth Ramas
- 13 And, and I'm curious to hear from folks. So, you know, this
- 14 opens up some thoughts of, you know, parents that may not have
- 15 the luxury of taking time off from work, for instance, in order
- 16 to be present with their infant that's in the NICU. And how does
- 17 that work with creating the bonding that is so important for a
- 18 child that's in the NICU?

19

- **20** 11:56 12:36
- 21 Marie Elizabeth Ramas
- 22 And I'm also thinking about parents that have multiple children,
- 23 and how that might affect the parents' availability and
- 24 understanding of what's happening internally in the, in the NICU
- 25 itself. So I'm curious, does anyone on the call have any other
- 26 thoughts? Do you think this aspect of social determinants as it
- 27 relates to risk of perceived needs or material needs, if there
- 28 is a complication postpartum postnatal, would that be something
- 29 that we as a subcommittee should look into further?

- **31** 12:39 12:45
- 32 Marie Elizabeth Ramas

- 1 And I don't see many people that are on the screen, but I'd love
- 2 to hear your thoughts here.

- **4** 12:56 13:15
- 5 ShaRhonda Thompson
- 6 I think that we -- that is something we should look at. I do
- 7 agree that that is it's a major concern. It's a major concern
- 8 for the mom while she's pregnant, so knowing that, okay, I may
- 9 not be able to take off work or have to take off work, which
- 10 means I'm going to have this issue, that issue.

11

- **12** 13:16 13:29
- 13 ShaRhonda Thompson
- 14 I'm already living check to check, I can't save money to be off
- 15 for six weeks. So I can see how that can lead to a lot of stress
- 16 that can cause issues during pregnancy.

17

- **18** 13:30 13:36
- 19 Marie Elizabeth Ramas
- 20 Yeah, and it sounds like a to-do. Charleta, Dr. Charleta had
- 21 mentioned is --

22

- **23** 13:37 13:38
- 24 Charleta Guillory
- 25 Please, call me Charleta.

- **27** 13:39 13:58
- 28 Marie Elizabeth Ramas
- 29 Thank you. Charleta. I had mentioned that, one, our social
- 30 drivers of health being used consistently across the board in

- 1 the perinatal period. And then two, how is that documented so
- 2 that it's -- there's continuity of care postnatally.

- **4** 13:59 14:23
- 5 Marie Elizabeth Ramas
- 6 And, that might be an area, team now that the, now that the on-
- 7 site team can hear us, that might be an area for us to get some
- 8 insights in. I don't know if there's, from a technology
- 9 standpoint, EHR standpoint, if there are any advancements
- 10 occurring as far as documentation. I know that there's billing
- 11 for social drivers of health.

12

- **13** 14:24 14:39
- 14 Marie Elizabeth Ramas
- 15 That's not necessarily reimbursed, but it's helpful for these
- 16 kind of population health concerns. But then how is it
- 17 transferred from the maternal chart or the birthing person's
- 18 chart to the infant's chart? Caroline.

19

- **20** 14:40 14:46
- 21 Caroline Dunn
- 22 Just some insights, kind of from the WIC side of things, because
- 23 this is something that we've been sort of working through in
- 24 terms of food security.

- **26** 14:47 15:12
- 27 Caroline Dunn
- 28 And there are several, innovative approaches that are happening
- 29 across the country. In North Carolina, specifically, Wake Forest
- 30 hospital system actually has a very interesting one where the
- 31 WIC system and physicians are able to communicate through notes
- 32 in the EHR system. And that is definitely not unique, but again,
- 33 an example of screening for and addressing social determinants

- 1 of health within the medical system and also having
- 2 communication from some of those programs back and forth.

- **4** 15:13 15:20
- 5 Caroline Dunn
- 6 And I'm happy to provide some insights on kind of what those
- 7 evaluations have looked like, if that's something that this
- 8 group would be interested in.

9

- **10** 15:23 15:40
- 11 Marie Elizabeth Ramas
- 12 Yeah, we can put that on our, sandbox as well. in our,
- 13 recommendations and I did want to also give opportunity for, is
- 14 it Zsakeba? Miss Dr. Henderson to --

15

- **16** 15:41 15:45
- 17 Zsakeba Henderson
- 18 Hi, I'm sorry. Yes. Zsakeba.
- **19** 15:46 15:55
- 20 Marie Elizabeth Ramas
- 21 Zsakeba, thank you. So I think you brought up a really
- 22 interesting point as well, and I'd love to hear from you. And
- 23 Melissa.

- **25** 15:55 16:10
- 26 Marie Elizabeth Ramas
- 27 And Melissa -- I do see -- Dr. Fries, I do see you as well.
- 28 Would you like to talk a little bit further, regarding this, and
- 29 then we'll get Dr. Fries' comments and then we can turn it over
- 30 to our summary document to look into a little further.

- **1** 16:11 16:14
- 2 Zsakeba Henderson
- 3 Yes. I just wanted to raise the issue.

- **5** 16:15 16:48
- 6 Zsakeba Henderson
- 7 I, just to introduce myself, I'm Zsakeba Henderson, an
- 8 obstetrician gynecologist and, founder and principal consultant
- 9 with Equity, Safety and Well-Being consultants and also Senior
- 10 Health Advisor for the National Institute for Children's Health
- 11 Quality, based in Boston. And I am, part of the work that I do,
- 12 there's a very it's deeply invested in the work around
- 13 improving equitable care and maternity care, but also very
- 14 involved in the work around, safe sleep and improving,
- 15 preventing, SUED and SIDS deaths.

16

- **17** 16:49 17:14
- 18 Zsakeba Henderson
- 19 And one of the things that came to my attention in a way that I
- 20 never anticipated was the impact of, you know, we know that
- 21 substance use and mental health are issues, you know, and
- 22 maternal health outcomes, but never really paid attention of the
- 23 impact of those diagnoses and experiences on, the child and on
- 24 the engaging with child welfare.

- **26** 17:15 17:36
- 27 Zsakeba Henderson
- 28 I had a specific encounter with a family who experienced the
- 29 SIDS death and, and subsequent to that, it was, of course, drug
- 30 screened and found to have a positive drug screening and all of
- 31 their other children, were taken away, by the state. And the
- 32 impact on the mental health of that mother was substantial.

- **1** 17:37 18:12
- 2 Zsakeba Henderson
- 3 And, I think the onus on us as health care providers and public
- 4 health practitioners to recognize the impact of certain policies
- 5 on health and outcomes that we may not even consider. And that
- 6 was one thing that I hadn't considered. And after, having
- 7 direct, you know, interaction with the family who experienced
- 8 it, realizing that the, the impact of the, the intermittent drug
- 9 use was much less than the impact of that intervention by the
- 10 state and removing the children on that mother and family's
- 11 health. And wondering what role can we play?

- **13** 18:13 18:25
- 14 Zsakeba Henderson
- 15 And, you know, our efforts to improve outcomes for moms and
- 16 infants on making sure that the policies that are in place that
- 17 supposedly are to protect children are actually harming families
- 18 and can be quite destructive.

19

- **20** 18:26 18: 56
- 21 Marie Elizabeth Ramas
- 22 Right. So poignant. And, you know, depending on the workforce in
- 23 each state as well, that can definitely lead to
- 24 misappropriation, just to move people along through the system,
- 25 whether it's necessary or unnecessary.

26

- **27** 18:57 19:01
- 28 Marie Elizabeth Ramas
- 29 And so, I'm hearing some opportunity to dig a little further.
- 30 Maybe the school to jail pipeline starts much more upstream than
- 31 we anticipate.

32

33 19:02 - 19:27

- 1 Zsakeba Henderson
- 2 Yes. And there are huge disparities, I mean, clearly, on which
- 3 families are impacted in this way. And there's also geographic
- 4 disparities, as I've looked into more certain states that have
- 5 some of the worse outcomes, have the most, punitive, policies
- 6 against mothers and families, that, one have experienced drug
- 7 use, especially those that, have, you know, issues around drug
- 8 use and mental health.

- **10** 19:28 19:41
- 11 Zsakeba Henderson
- 12 And, it's quite alarming. that I'm figuring out what families
- 13 are experiencing, particularly families that are poor and don't
- 14 have the resources to fight to keep their families together.

15

- **16** 19:42 19:46
- 17 Marie Elizabeth Ramas
- 18 So thank you so much. And Dr. Fries? or Fries?

19

- **20** 19:47 19:48
- 21 Melissa Fries
- 22 Yes. Hello? Can you hear me?

23

- **24** 19:49 19:50
- 25 Marie Elizabeth Ramas
- 26 Yes.

- **28** 19:50 19:55
- 29 Melissa Fries

- 1 Thank you. I appreciate the opportunity to speak. My name is
- 2 Melissa Fries.

- 4 19:56 20:25
- 5 Melissa Fries
- 6 I'm a clinical geneticist and high-risk obstetrician. So I had
- 7 the privilege of actually sitting on both the infant and the
- 8 maternal mortality committees here in the District of Columbia.
- 9 And that's given me a very interesting perspective on the impact
- 10 of the social determinants of health in terms of the infant
- 11 mortality concerns. We have, is described as continuing concern
- 12 for pre-term birth and congenital anomalies.

13

- **14** 20:26 21:10
- 15 Melissa Fries
- 16 But astonishingly, a large number of sleep-related births that I
- 17 think are potentially preventable through better housing
- 18 situation. These are babies that die because they are bed
- 19 sharing, often with 2 or 3 siblings and siblings differ from
- 20 parents who may have some awareness of the vulnerability of the
- 21 baby, but sibs don't. And so there is this concern that if there
- 22 were a different housing setting for these -- these are people
- 23 in maybe in hotel housing or in HUD houses that have two
- 24 bedrooms for seven children.

- **26** 21:11 21:51
- 27 Melissa Fries
- 28 All of these issues relate back to the disparity and the need
- 29 for different housing accommodations. It was surprising to me,
- 30 how rare those kind of overlay issues are with people who have
- 31 can actually afford a three bedroom house. So just, a major
- 32 comment in that regard. And in terms of maternal issues, I think
- 33 that we really have to comment on the challenges of how mothers
- 34 balance their other children's needs with the needs of their
- 35 newborn and their pregnancy.

```
2
    21:52 - 22:26
3
    Melissa Fries
4
    As a geneticist, I often see mothers who prioritize the child
    that they have rather than the potential child, because that's
5
6
    what they can care for. It's a lose-lose situation for them
7
    making it so that they can't come to the nursery. They don't
8
    have a place to stay when they come to the nursery. Many women
9
    choose to go back to work from their babies in the nursery so
    that they can then have that time off when the baby comes home,
10
    but that prevents them from bonding there in the nursery.
11
12
13
    22:26 - 22:57
14
    Melissa Fries
15
    So many of those issues could be impacted by altering our
16
    capacity with our nurseries to accommodate people overnight and
17
    have places for siblings to stay. Also, to have some legislation
    that could address issues related to the unique feature of a
18
19
    nursery baby and how that would impact on its downstream life
20
    care by having family attendance. So comments along those lines.
21
22
    22:57 - 22:58
23
    Melissa Fries
24
    I appreciate the opportunity to speak.
25
    23:09 - 23:10
26
27
    Unknown
28
    You're muted. Marie.
29
30
31
    23:15 - 22:36
```

- 1 Marie Elizabeth Ramas
- 2 Thank you. That's a great point. I'm not aware -- and this might
- 3 be an area of opportunity for the subcommittee to see what is
- 4 available as far as education for parents that have children
- 5 that are in nursery settings or NICU settings and what that
- 6 might look like, how to access resources.

- 8 22:37 24:04
- 9 Marie Elizabeth Ramas
- 10 As a delivering -- as a family doctor that delivered babies and
- 11 took care babies in tertiary settings, I know I incorporated the
- 12 potentiality. If there were complications, this is what you
- 13 might encounter, but I'm not sure of any resources that goes
- 14 into the depth that you are talking about, Dr. Fries. So I
- 15 appreciate that.

16

- **17** 24:05 24:53
- 18 Marie Elizabeth Ramas
- 19 So I appreciate these additional insights. I believe before you
- 20 today, you're able to see our work group summary, of
- 21 recommendations thus far. Sherri, did you have any since I can't
- 22 see you well, did you have any additional thoughts before we go
- 23 into our summaries? And the hope here is that we can either
- 24 highlight some of these recommendations as things that we as a
- 25 subcommittee should go into a little bit deeper versus adding
- 26 additional recommendations like the two that were or the three
- 27 that were suggested today as well.

- **29** 24:54 25:03
- 30 Marie Elizabeth Ramas
- 31 So, Sherri, did you have any additional thoughts before we kind
- 32 of go through these recommendations here for the last 30
- 33 minutes?

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1 25:07 - 25:12
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- 2 Sherri Alderman
- 3 Let me just adjust...

- **5** 25:14 25:17
- 6 Marie Elizabeth Ramas
- 7 No, I can't hear you. Okay.

8

- **9** 25:38 25:40
- 10 Belinda Pettiford
- 11 Can you hear this one?

12

- **13** 25:41 25:43
- 14 Marie Elizabeth Ramas
- 15 Yep. Thank you.

16

- **17** 25:46 26:16
- 18 Sherri Alderman
- 19 Okay, so there we go. We got it figured out. Now, I'll -- we'll
- 20 share, thanks Belinda. I just wanted to say that the purpose of
- 21 this meeting today is -- it's a great opportunity to get that
- 22 diversity of voices and perspectives that we have in this
- 23 virtual meeting and that we have been, you know, having people
- 24 come and speak to this subcommittee over the last several
- 25 months.

- **27** 26:17 27:00
- 28 Sherri Alderman
- 29 And we have been drawing from those experiences, those learned
- 30 experiences to begin to formulate draft recommendations that

- 1 that will ultimately result in being a part of the report that
- 2 goes to the Secretary. and we are charged with making
- 3 recommendations for a tremendously broad topic, as we hear every
- 4 time we hear your voices in this process, and also limiting the
- 5 number of recommendations that will be merged with the other
- 6 three subcommittees, in the report.

- **8** 27:01 27:25
- 9 Sherri Alderman
- 10 So we -- today is, an opportunity to kind of throw out a wide
- 11 net. And then and as with the in the spirit of this is a draft
- 12 and we will be working with this information to optimize the
- 13 recommendations that eventually appear in the report. And so I
- 14 just want to say I'm very grateful for this opportunity.

15

- **16** 27:26 27:41
- 17 Sherry Alderman
- 18 And we already have some laid down here in this draft that Marie
- 19 can go through to give you a sense of where we are at this point
- 20 and so that we can build on that. So, thank you, Marie.

21

- **22** 27:48 28:18
- 23 Marie Elizabeth Ramas
- 24 Awesome and keep the ideas coming in the chat, while we're
- 25 discussing. So, to Sherri's point, here are some recommendations
- 26 and thoughts that we had after having multiple presentations.
- 27 One of the things that were very clear to us, as we started our
- 28 workgroup sessions for Social Drivers of Health, was the concept
- 29 of nutrition and disparities in access to optimized nutrition
- 30 support.

- **32** 28:19 29:07
- 33 Marie Elizabeth Ramas

- 1 And the -- beyond having information from WIC, we were able to
- 2 invite again, this Mother of Fact platform, group, where they
- 3 have created, a means to provide telehealth services for
- 4 nutrition for both inpatient and outpatient, expectant patient -
- 5 people, who have high-risk, diagnoses during gestation. And
- 6 so, very interesting opportunities here where they have a
- 7 working document, research document that will be published soon
- 8 that talks about their measure of impact.

- **10** 29:08 29:34
- 11 Marie Elizabeth Ramas
- 12 They are able to help support both the institutions, and also
- 13 with billing the institution with billing of these services,
- 14 which also helps. And then they're able to also connect pre and
- 15 postnatal. So that's one area of recommendation. Again how do we
- 16 leverage technology in order to help support those who are high-
- 17 risk?

18

- **19** 29:35 30:06
- 20 Marie Elizabeth Ramas
- 21 And we all know that it's been -- it's difficult to get access
- 22 to reliable sources of quality care, in a culturally sensitive
- 23 manner, which this group has done. Does this seem to resonate as
- 24 far as the nutrition support and optimizing technology as it
- 25 comes to nutrition support? Does that resonate with the group,
- 26 and are there any other groups or best practices that you think
- 27 we should also look into going into this next phase here?

28

- **29** 30:07 30:16
- 30 Marie Elizabeth Ramas
- 31 So -- and feel free to come off of mute folks. I think we're a
- 32 small enough group that we can do that.

33

34 30:17 - 30:46

- 1 Melissa Fries
- 2 Okay, I like the connections with WIC, but the other there are
- 3 connections with potentially increasing food delivery services
- 4 and meal delivery services. For those -- specifically for
- 5 pregnant women and for diabetic patients. I think that those are
- 6 extraordinarily useful for people who have children and who
- 7 maybe struggle with hunger who would utilize food resources.

- 9 30:47 31:08
- 10 Marie Elizabeth Ramas
- 11 Okay. So food resources and that -- I think about geo mapping,
- 12 which can vary depending on state geo mapping of services that
- 13 are local. Any other thoughts, folks, regarding incorporation of
- 14 nutrition services?

15

- **16** 31:10 31:16
- 17 Caroline Dunn
- 18 Yeah, this is Caroline. I just wanted to point out, just as a
- 19 quick from the USDA perspective, WIC is definitely not the only
- 20 program that pregnant and postpartum people would be eligible
- 21 for.

22

- **23** 31:17 31:24
- 24 Caroline Dunn
- 25 So I would just caution us to expand beyond WIC and think of
- 26 SNAP and other nutrition support programs as well.

27

- **28** 31:27 31:29
- 29 Marie Elizabeth Ramas
- 30 Thank you, Caroline.

- **1** 31:33 31:50
- 2 Marie Elizabeth Ramas
- 3 Anyone on site have any insights that they'd like to bring? Dr.
- 4 Fries, you may -- you have your hand up. I'm not sure if that
- 5 is, a new hand or if it's from your previous comments.

- **7** 31:51 31:56
- 8 Melissa Fries
- 9 I apologize. I don't have a new comment.

10

- **11** 31:58 32:14
- 12 Marie Elizabeth Ramas
- 13 Okay, great. All right. So, moving on to the next recommendation
- 14 that we had was evidence of reimbursement for nurse led or
- 15 community health worker led, home visit programs.

16

- **17** 32:15 32:31
- 18 Marie Elizabeth Ramas
- 19 And Sherri, I'm not sure if you have any comments regarding the
- 20 Family Connects program or any clarifying or content, contextual
- 21 points that you want to bring about the Family Connects program
- 22 for the group.

23

- **24** 32:33 32:46
- 25 Sherri Alderman
- 26 Hi, sure. Just very briefly, Family Connects is a universally
- 27 offered home visiting program that families can opt to take
- 28 advantage of.

29

30 32:47 - 33:11

- 1 Sherri Alderman
- 2 If the at -- in the hospital at the time of birth, if they
- 3 choose to opt in, they receive typically one but sometimes up to
- 4 three home visits about three weeks after the birth of the
- 5 child. And that is an opportunity for a nurse, in this case, in
- 6 this model, a nurse to come to the home to engage with the
- 7 family.

- 9 33:12 33:58
- 10 Sherri Alderman
- 11 Again, this is a brief, intervention and but very broad list of
- 12 topics that they engage with the family, to talk about that. The
- 13 concept is that every birthing family can benefit from a
- 14 connection. It can help address a sense of isolation when you go
- 15 home with that baby in-arms. It can also be a non-stigmatized
- 16 approach to engaging with the early childhood system,
- 17 specifically home visiting, especially for families who may be
- 18 reluctant to do so because it is universally offered for
- 19 everyone.

20

- **21** 33:59 34:24
- 22 Sherry Alderman
- 23 There are no criteria other than having a baby to qualify for
- 24 this brief intervention. And then in the case that longer-term
- 25 home visiting would be of benefit to a family if they opt in,
- 26 they are referred, a warm handoff, to an available home visiting
- 27 program for longer-term engagement.

- **29** 34:27 35:04
- 30 Marie Elizabeth Ramas
- 31 Excellent. Awesome, awesome. Thoughts here being put in the
- 32 chat, so thank you, keep them coming. I see you, Monique,
- 33 regarding expanding home visits and who's included? There's a
- 34 great point. Sometimes we can be too narrow, from a state policy

- 1 or even a federal policy level. And we miss opportunities for
- 2 other very qualified individuals that do not need to necessarily
- 3 be medicalized, but we can get reimbursement for those services.

- **5** 35:05 35:25
- 6 Marie Elizabeth Ramas
- 7 So we'll add that to the, to the recommendations. And I
- 8 apologize, I'm on one screen. So, if I can have someone on site
- 9 perhaps looking at the chat for me, so that way we don't miss
- 10 out on these, that'll be helpful as well. Charleta?

11

- **12** 35:27 35:39
- 13 Charleta Guillory
- 14 Two quick things. The -- if you participate in this program,
- 15 will you still be able to see your pediatrician or family
- 16 practice physicians for the babies?

17

- **18** 35:41 35:44
- 19 Charlotta
- 20 That's in addition to, correct?

21

- **22** 35:46 -35:42
- 23 Sherri Alderman
- 24 Yeah, this is Sherri. That's absolutely, it's -- in that way,
- 25 it's like other home visiting programs.

26

- **27** 35:43 35:44
- 28 Charleta Guillory
- **29** Okay.

- **1** 35:45 36:12
- 2 Sherri Alderman
- 3 It's for ideally greater connectivity between home visiting
- 4 program and the primary care services that are provided to both
- 5 the birthing person and the baby. That is it because one does
- 6 not preclude the other.

- **8** 36:14 36:27
- 9 Charleta Guillory
- 10 And the only other question I had is, as we expand the number
- 11 one where we expand delivery of meals, et cetera, just -- and we
- 12 talked about diabetics. Please keep in mind the breastfeeding
- 13 mother.

14

- **15** 36:33 36:46
- 16 Marie Elizabeth Ramas
- 17 Yeah, I think you bring a great point. We, both Sherri and I,
- 18 there's a healthy tension between the Social Determinants of
- 19 Health, Social Drivers of Health and the Interconception group.

20

- **21** 36:47 37:13
- 22 Marie Elizabeth Ramas
- 23 I think that is a great example of encouraging breastfeeding and
- 24 that fourth trimester time, how important it is to have the
- 25 appropriate support. And that is a overlapping kind of
- 26 intersection between prenatal, perinatal, and interconception as
- 27 well. So I appreciate you pulling that out, and I'll make a note
- 28 of that.

- **30** 37:16 37:17
- 31 Marie Elizabeth Ramas
- 32 All right.

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1
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- **2** 37:18 37:19
- 3 Sherri Alderman
- 4 Hand is up.

- **6** 37:22 37:26
- 7 Marie Elizabeth Ramas
- 8 Oh, please, you can go off mute. Again, I'm on one screen, so
- 9 thank you so much.

10

- **11** 37:27 37:49
- 12 Nima Sheth
- 13 Hi. This is Nima from SAMHSA. I know that we presented on the
- 14 maternal mental health strategy, but I -- as I'm looking at some
- 15 of these recommendations, I see a lot of overlap with the
- 16 strategy. So I just wanted to point out, any way that we could
- 17 sync on some of this together because we also talk about, home
- 18 raising programs and especially reimbursement.

- **20** 37:50 38:28
- 21 Nima Sheth
- 22 And then I know we talked about this, but like the dyadic care
- 23 and reimbursement for dyadic care, or like multi-generational
- 24 care, so that is addressing some of this. I do think we could go
- 25 -- we could do more in the strategy around SDOH. So I'd love to
- 26 connect with the appropriate folks, I guess down the road? So I
- 27 guess the action item or recommendation would be to maybe sync
- 28 with the strategy or as we create it or implementation tracker
- 29 to see what we could help implement through the strategy that
- 30 would also align with what this group wants to get done here,
- 31 kind of pull that work in together.

- **1** 38:29 38:39
- 2 Marie Elizabeth Ramas
- 3 That sounds like that might be an opportunity to return. and we
- 4 can maybe do more of a working session around those specifics.

- **6** 38:41 38:49
- 7 Nima Sheth
- 8 That would be great. Yeah. So we can have our schedulers
- 9 actually reach out to you all. Would that be the best way to
- 10 just -- or maybe you'll get back to us on action steps for this,
- 11 but then we can follow up.

12

- **13** 38:50 38:57
- 14 Nima Sheth
- 15 But yeah, a working session on kind of reviewing the tracker and
- 16 going through some practical steps, would be great, yeah.

17

- **18** 39:03 39:06
- 19 Belinda Pettiford
- 20 This is Belinda. I don't know if you can hear me or not. Marie.

21

- **22** 39:07 39:08
- 23 Marie Elizabeth Ramas
- 24 Yes.

- **26** 39:09 39:20
- 27 Belinda Pettiford
- 28 Okay. I just want to make sure we are mindful, the focus of this
- 29 work group around those non-medical or social drivers of health

- 1 and the focus on a Black African American maternal and infant
- 2 health.

- 4 39:21 39:43
- 5 Belinda Pettiford
- 6 And for us to be bold, and by no means does Belinda have an
- 7 issue with home visiting, but we just had a presentation
- 8 yesterday where millions and millions of dollars are going into
- 9 home visiting. So is that a recommendation that we want to keep
- 10 supporting knowing that it is moving forward, or do we want to
- 11 think broader? Think something outside of the box?

12

- **13** 39:44 40:02
- 14 Belinda Pettiford
- 15 And I think we all need to think about that when we're thinking
- 16 about these social drivers, these social determinants of health.
- 17 What is it that we know families need or benefit from that isn't
- 18 occurring already? And so I think we need to make sure that is
- 19 part of this conversation with this workgroup.

20

- **21** 40:03 40:51
- 22 Sherri Alderman
- 23 This is Sherri. I appreciate your comments, Belinda. And
- 24 reminding us to be bold and to not just underscore what's
- 25 already happening and, and if I could add to that. In terms
- 26 of Family Connects most recently, MCHB at HRSA has made the
- 27 determination that they would only be, through MIECHV dollars,
- 28 they would only be supporting long-term home visiting programs,
- 29 such as nurse-family partnership, etc. and that Family Connects
- 30 as a very brief intervention is not something that they are
- 31 actively funding and, and have shared that they do not plan to
- 32 fund.

33

34 40:52 - 41:09

- 1 Sherri Alderman
- 2 So I agree that we need to think more broadly than home
- 3 visiting. I also feel that we're pushing the envelope, with
- 4 HRSA, by saying that Family Connects does have value, even
- 5 though it is a brief intervention, not a long-term intervention.

- **7** 41:12 41:15
- 8 Belinda Pettiford
- 9 Thank you. I just want to make sure that it has value for Black
- 10 and African American individuals.

11

- **12** 41:16 41:24
- 13 Belinda Pettiford
- 14 That's what I want to see, the data, the research to support
- 15 because that's where our focus is. So thank you for that
- 16 information.

17

- **18** 41:26 42:00
- 19 Sherri Alderman
- 20 And I would add to add to that too, thank you for reminding me,
- 21 that in conversation with Family Connects' Executive Director,
- 22 she pointed out that because this is a universal model and
- 23 offered to everyone, that it can capture Black birthing persons
- 24 who are of higher socioeconomic class who are at increased risk
- 25 that we were hearing over and over again for, infant and/or
- 26 maternal mortality and morbidity.

- **28** 42:01 42:14
- 29 Sherri Alderman
- 30 So, it can reach everyone -- it has the potential to reach
- 31 everyone, including, Black birthing people that that are -- do
- 32 not qualify for other home visiting programs.

- **2** 42:17 42:49
- 3 Marie Elizabeth Ramas
- 4 One of the aspects that I think is potentially bold is making
- 5 these universal requirements, right? Right now we have
- 6 spotlights and we have bright spots across the country. We have
- 7 certain programs that are demonstrating good outcomes. But for
- 8 entities like FQHCs, for instance, Title X, for instance, where
- 9 there are auditory requirements that need to be done in order to
- 10 receive funding.

- **12** 42:50 43:14
- 13 Marie Elizabeth Ramas
- 14 That might be that extra boldness that we're talking about, if
- 15 we are not standardizing is best practices, then we're left at
- 16 the discretion of the individual at hand to make the decisions
- 17 of who warrants and who merits the access in some regard. So
- 18 that might be another thing that I can add to the document.

19

- **20** 43:15 43:16
- 21 Marie Elizabeth Ramas
- 22 Franchesca, your hand's up.

23

- **24** 43:27 43:29
- 25 Marie Elizabeth Ramas
- 26 Franchesca, I can't hear you.

- **28** 43:32 43:36
- 29 Belinda Pettiford
- 30 You may want to come back to it because she's, she looks
- 31 unmuted, so she may just be having technical issues.

```
1
2
    43:39 - 43:35
3
    Marie Elizabeth Ramas
4
    Thanks. All right, so, I should start --
5
6
    43:35 - 43:58
7
    Sherri Alderman
8
    Could I point out a comment that came in the chat, and invite
9
    Ashley to talk a little bit more? She's making reference to a
10
    document specific to Black maternal and infant health.
11
12
    43:59 - 44:06
    Sherry Alderman
13
14
    Ashley, would you like to come off mute and say what this
15
    document is that you're pointing out for us?
16
17
    44:15 - 44:44
18
    Ashley Hirai
19
    Yeah, I don't have a whole lot more to add. But I do think that
20
    came up yesterday. Sherri, you actually mentioned that that
21
    housing does seem like an opportunity that can be both, social
    driver with health-related social needs and screening. And
22
    Sherri, actually, you were talking about something that Oregon
23
    was doing around that and having a Medicaid waiver to be able to
24
25
    pay for housing, and support that.
26
27
    44:45 - 45:15
28
    Ashley Hirai
    And then, you know, broader policies around zoning and other
29
    ways of encouraging mixed income and more integrated
30
    neighborhoods. So there could be an opportunity to have, like,
31
```

- 1 policy experts in housing, maybe speak to this group. Matthew
- 2 Desmond at Princeton, he runs the Eviction Lab. And I know
- 3 there's a lot of research on that in terms of maternal and
- 4 infant health outcomes.

- **6** 45:16 45:48
- 7 Ashley
- 8 Jason Reese is on that paper I just put in the chat, from the
- 9 Kerwin Institute, in Ohio. And, yeah, I think there definitely
- 10 are a lot of opportunities in the housing sphere because it is
- 11 the largest expense in our families, budget and typically
- 12 accounts for more than half, and is a major source of
- 13 intergenerational wealth inequality as well.

14

- **15** 45:49 45:56
- 16 Franchesca Saulson
- 17 If this is a good time to share what my thought was.

18

- **19** 46:00 46:03
- 20 Franchesca Saulson
- 21 Can you guys hear me now?

22

- **23** 46:04 46:06
- 24 Belinda Pettiford
- 25 Yes, we can hear you, Franchesca.

- **27** 46:06 46:27
- 28 Franchesca Saulson
- 29 Okay, perfect. So I heard a lot about housing as well as mothers
- 30 that have babies that are in the NICU and, just coming from a

- 1 place of -- I never had a baby that was in the NICU. But I do,
- 2 have had three high risk pregnancies.

- **4** 46:28 46:57
- 5 Franchesca Saulson
- 6 And I've had family members as well as friends that have gone
- 7 through similar situations or have had C-sections and babies
- 8 that had ended up in the NICU. And I've seen that, a lot of the
- 9 time -- I also heard that there is a food issue, but also a lot
- 10 of those mothers want to breastfeed their children.

11

- **12** 46:58 47:27
- 13 Franchesca Saulson
- 14 And if they have to commute from home back to the hospital if
- 15 they've had a C-section, and that makes it a little bit rougher
- 16 because they have to take care of theirself and the healing
- 17 process. I've seen that some hospitals that have children, that
- 18 have to stay in the hospital, like I had known a mother and her
- 19 daughter had got meningitis.

20

- **21** 47:28 48:17
- 22 Franchesca Saulson
- 23 And I know this is a completely different scenario, but, there
- 24 was -- her daughter was in a room where she was able to stay
- 25 with the daughter, and there was, laundry facility as well as a
- 26 place where she could shower so that she was able to stay with
- 27 her daughter. And I think if something like similar to that was
- 28 put in place into hospitals for high-risk mothers that may have
- 29 gone through a C-section or, their, their child is very high-
- 30 risk and needs to stay in the neck for a little bit longer, that
- 31 maybe that would help the food shortage, because the mother
- 32 would be able to supply the milk to the child.

- 1 Franchesca Saulson
- 2 You wouldn't have to have formula on hand, because with the
- 3 mothers that I know that had C-sections and had to go home and
- 4 come back, and they could only make it on certain days, their
- 5 milk supply would dry up before they could get back to their
- 6 child. So they weren't able to breastfeed their child, so they
- 7 would end up having to buy a formula. And one that takes money
- 8 from the hospitals.

- **10** 48:47 49:13
- 11 Franchesca Saulson
- 12 But it also takes money from the family. And it also, I think it
- 13 also increases the recovery rate for the mother and the child if
- 14 they're able to be together right after birth. So the longer
- 15 that they're able to have the skin to skin and have the ability
- 16 to breastfeed and be close to their child and child be close to
- 17 mother.

18

- **19** 49:14 50:03
- 20 Franchesca Saulson
- 21 That is just a thought to put out there that if there was an
- 22 ability to have the mother stay a little bit longer in the
- 23 hospital with the child that, the rates of mortality might go
- 24 down too, because, their immune system might be a little bit
- 25 better because they were able to have been supervised by the
- 26 hospital as well as being breastfed by mother to get the
- 27 nutrition from the breast milk, as well as extra bonding time,
- 28 because I know if I wasn't able to be with my kids straight out
- 29 of the hospital and I had to commute to the hospital and back,
- 30 it would be very difficult for me.

- **32** 50:05 50:41
- 33 Franchesca Saulson

- 1 Just not only physically, but emotionally. And I know that, with
- 2 one of the mothers that I know and these are all Black mothers
- 3 as well, she had, she had weight issues before she had the baby.
- 4 So her C-section was getting infected. It wasn't healing
- 5 properly because, of course, every day she was trying to get up
- 6 and drive herself to see her daughter, but she couldn't drive
- 7 herself, so she still had to get into the car, walk up and down
- 8 stairs and go through all of these things.

- **10** 50:42 51:04
- 11 Franchesca Saulson
- 12 But, I think that -- just a thought to put out there, that maybe
- 13 that would help benefit families and also maybe take off of some
- 14 of the food issues surrounding newborn babies.

15

- **16** 51:05 51:45
- 17 Marie Elizabeth Ramas
- 18 Thanks, Franchesca, all excellent points. And, as we're -- we
- 19 have 15 more minutes, before we have to transition. I'm hearing
- 20 this, a need possibly I wrote down here, to look at potential
- 21 economic impacts of some interventions. One to Belinda's point,
- 22 you know, how do we quarantee potential income or credits or
- 23 protect parental leave so that one can promote and have paid
- 24 parental leave so that one can promote bonding?

- **26** 51:46 52:22
- 27 Marie Elizabeth Ramas
- 28 And then I heard Franchesca from you, examine potentially,
- 29 what's the risk benefit of allowing for extended hospital stays
- 30 for birthing individuals? And providing nutrition, potential
- 31 travel vouchers, what have you so that they can manage, that
- 32 peripartum phase. if their child is in a NICU setting or with
- 33 complications. Did I miss anything, Sherri, or, are there any
- 34 other thoughts or areas that we need to highlight that I may
- 35 have missed something?

3 Sherri Alderman

4 No, I think you covered it really well, thanks. Yeah.

5

- **6** 52:29 52:58
- 7 Marie Elizabeth Ramas
- 8 Okay. So I'd love for us to take the last 15 minutes to expand
- 9 on this concept of going bolder. So I think in some permutations
- 10 we've heard about transportation, we've heard about documenting
- 11 for social drivers of health and for, for even race in EHR
- 12 systems in a more consistent way.

13

- **14** 53:00 53:46
- 15 Marie Elizabeth Ramas
- 16 We've heard about the importance of nutrition and various
- 17 permutations. We have some best practices that we've identified
- 18 and some groups that we've identified in our previous sessions.
- 19 I invite us today, to think a little bit beyond what the
- 20 baseline structure is. My hope with that is that as we're
- 21 starting to think about recommendations and crafting our
- 22 recommendations, we really want to stretch what we currently
- 23 have available so that, so that the common denominator is going
- 24 to be, yes, we need to have EHRs that talk to one another.

- **26** 53:47 54:17
- 27 Marie Elizabeth Ramas
- 28 We need to make sure that, you know, there are policies and
- 29 practices that allow routine screening for all individuals and
- 30 hence Black individuals to, you know, to have access. I'm
- 31 wondering, just taking the mental health aspect because that
- 32 seems to be a more ubiquitous concept as well. What would be a
- 33 recommendation?

- **2** 54:18 54:55
- 3 Marie Elizabeth Ramas
- 4 Or in a utopian world, an environment or an archetype of a
- 5 birthing patient and infant dyad that does have complicating
- 6 factors as a Black birthing patient, what would be the picture
- 7 of that? So I'd like for us to think about this in multiple
- 8 aspects. Just looking at mental health screening, if we can
- 9 think about it as, when the person first becomes pregnant.

- **11** 54:56 55:28
- 12 Marie Elizabeth Ramas
- 13 To how do you manage various mental health aspects during the
- 14 pregnancy to screening for potential post, postnatal
- 15 complications with mental health, and then access and follow up
- 16 for both the individual and the infant. So let's just use this
- 17 next couple of minutes to be iterative, and talk about we have
- 18 some best practices, what's the next step?

19

- **20** 55:29 55:49
- 21 Marie Elizabeth Ramas
- 22 What's the 2.0? Recognizing certainly at this point, there are
- 23 many places that we still haven't gotten off the ground yet. So
- 24 let's put that aside and kind of think about a little bit more
- 25 broadly for the next couple of minutes. And I'm leaving this
- 26 purposefully open so that we can have some measure of
- 27 creativity.

- **29** 55:50 55:55
- 30 Marie Elizabeth Ramas
- 31 Franchesca, do you have thoughts? Or is that hand from your
- 32 previous comment? Or?

- **1** 56:00 56:02
- 2 Franchesca Saulson
- 3 That was from my previous comment. My apologies.

- **5** 56:03 56:54
- 6 Marie Elizabeth Ramas
- 7 No problem. Qin Li, I see what is-two people, what's the
- 8 recommendation on promoting perinatal mental health and healthy
- 9 relationships, preventing violence. So, let's talk about that. I
- 10 know that we have some, both ACOG, AAFP and AAP have recommended
- 11 screening measures, both in the hospital setting when patients
- 12 are delivering and then postnatally, Qin, would you, would you
- 13 care to unmute and share a little bit more about what you might
- 14 perceive to promote in a bold way, perinatal mental health?

15

- **16** 56:55 57:41
- 17 Oin Li
- 18 Oh, thank you. Thank you for the invitation. I want to use early
- 19 home visiting as the example I remember your report talking
- 20 about healthy relationships education was evaluated in the study
- 21 on early home visits. However, the existing component in the
- 22 early home visiting curriculum hasn't been comprehensive and
- 23 standardized. So that's a key issue. So how to break the gap
- 24 breach report in other discipline?

- **26** 57:42 58:20
- 27 Qin Li
- 28 So family psychologists very -- family therapist really working
- 29 on those issues. So they already developed comprehensive and
- 30 standardized curriculum. I hope in Maternal and Child Health
- 31 Bureau, those early home built-in programs can integrate
- 32 existing evidence-based practice really develop to break the
- 33 gap, the boundary practices claim.

- **2** 58:22 58:55
- 3 Marie Elizabeth Ramas
- 4 Thank you so much for that comment. And you know, we do -- we
- 5 have heard and we've heard presentations of the merits of the
- 6 home visiting programs. just to be a devil's advocate, not every
- 7 culture accepts people, random people coming to their home. And
- 8 not every culture is open to specifically talking and screening
- 9 about mental health concerns, in that kind of a setting.

- **11** 58:56 59:22
- 12 Marie Elizabeth Ramas
- 13 And so I'm inviting folks in on the call here. If we want to
- 14 talk about home visits, how can we make sure that we have
- 15 culturally sensitive and appropriate home visits? And how can we
- 16 incentivize the right workforce to do the home visits? That
- 17 could be a potential tertiary recommendation that we can submit.
- 18 Charleta, you came off mute.

19

- **20** 59:26 59:46
- 21 Charleta Guillory
- 22 Not necessarily home visits, but I think it can be applied to
- 23 that. We have an app screening for our mothers in the NICU. The
- 24 reason we did that is because I think what Dr. Henderson said is
- 25 the high rate of -- if we picked up a mother that was positive
- 26 being referred to CPS.

- **28** 59:47 01:00:10
- 29 Charleta Guillory
- 30 So what we did is develop an app where the mother can screen
- 31 herself, depending on the numbers, it then gives her the
- 32 resources and plans so that it's a way of screening mothers. But
- 33 yet it sort of leaves the onus on them to follow through with

- 1 it. And we really was able to look at the data we presented at
- 2 Spro recently.

- **4** 01:00:11 01:00:27
- 5 Charleta Guillory
- 6 And what it did do is we had a higher incidence of women of
- 7 color doing the testing because they were able to do it, and it
- 8 was more private, does that make sense? And they did not have to
- 9 have any worry about any repercussions. That's all.

10

- **11** 01:00:28 01:00:37
- 12 Marie Elizabeth Ramas
- 13 Asynchronous, I like that. And how about you getting paid for
- 14 the completion of that, from a fee for service standpoint?

15

- **16** 01:00:38 01:01:12
- 17 Marie Elizabeth Ramas
- 18 Right. So I you know, and Belinda, I wonder sometimes what I'm
- 19 hearing and this is the friction, and we'll need to dig into
- 20 this a little bit more as co-chairs, maybe the simplest things
- 21 need to be considered as bold because they haven't been
- 22 ubiquitously implemented yet. So I'm -- we'll have to like,
- 23 think about, you know, why do these themes continue to come up
- 24 and why are they not universally implemented?

25

- **26** 01:01:13 01:01:27
- 27 Marie Elizabeth Ramas
- 28 And how can we incentivize some of those behaviors that we know
- 29 work? That was a rhetorical question, but definitely has got me
- 30 thinking. So we have a couple more minutes remaining, Sherri.

31

32 01:01:28 - 01:01:32

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1 Belinda Pettiford
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2 You've got a hand up. Juanita's hand was up.

3

- 4 01:01:33 01:01:34
- 5 Marie Elizabeth Ramas
- 6 Thank you, Juanita?

7

- 8 01:01:37 01:01:59
- 9 Juanita Chinn
- 10 Hi, home visits. One, they can be seen as surveillance. So
- 11 beyond the cultural appropriateness of them, you know,
- 12 surveillance among low income or low SES status households, is
- 13 not always welcomed, and it can be seen as a way for Child
- 14 Protective Services.

15

- **16** 01:02:00 01:02:36
- 17 Juanita Chinn
- 18 As we talked about housing inadequacies and number of rooms per
- 19 household member, and how those things can impact child well-
- 20 being. Those types of screenings may not be something that is
- 21 welcome for certain populations. The other regarding
- 22 interpersonal violence, NIH has issued this fiscal year two
- 23 notices of funding opportunity for trainings of people that have
- 24 maternal health expertise, but not IPV expertise.

- **26** 01:02:37 01:02:59
- 27 Juanita Chinn
- 28 These are two as we know, homicide is the number one cause of
- 29 maternal death. but these are two disciplines that typically are
- 30 not interconnected. So it's taking those who are experts in
- 31 interpersonal violence and educating those that are experts in
- 32 maternal health.

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1
2
    01:03:03 - 01:03:30
3
    Juanita Chinn
4
    The other thing I wanted to add on that also is that these types
    of programs and things that we talk about with maternal health
5
6
    interventions typically are with the victim, and don't involve
7
    the perpetrator. And so it's important when we think about all
8
    interventions on maternal health, particularly homicide during
9
    the pregnant and postpartum periods, that we think about
    interventions with the perpetrator.
10
11
12
    01:03:34 - 01:03:35
13
    Marie Elizabeth Ramas
14
    Thank you.
15
16
    01:03:38 - 01:03:55
17
    Marie Elizabeth Ramas
18
    Well, I want to thank everyone for their robust engagement here.
19
    We'll be picking up hopefully these resources and saving the
    chat as well. Sherri, do you have any?
20
21
22
    01:03:57 - 01:04:00
23
    Belinda Pettiford
24
    This is Belinda. I'm sorry for interrupting you. Can you hear
25
    me?
26
27
    01:04:00 - 01:04:01
28
    Marie Elizabeth Ramas
29
    Yes, I can.
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1 01:04:01 - 01:04:11
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- 2 Belinda Pettiford
- 3 I'm sorry. I think we forgot about a presentation on social
- 4 isolation that someone was supposed to be given as part of this
- 5 session.

- **7** 01:04:12 01:04:19
- 8 Belinda Pettiford
- 9 I just got a text about it. That's what I think. We might have
- 10 forgotten it. Or was it for a different group?

11

- **12** 01:04:21 01:04:24
- 13 Sherri Alderman
- 14 I -- that's right. I thought it was supposed to be in this
- 15 group.

16

- **17** 01:04:26 01:04:29
- 18 Ms. Ahmed
- 19 Hi, I'm just coming off mute. If folks can hear me. Hi, yes.

20

- **21** 01:04:30 01:04:43
- 22 Belinda Pettiford
- We're down to like four, five minutes now. So are you good
- 24 narrowing down your presentation? Apologies on our end for
- 25 forgetting that you were presenting in this session.

- **27** 01:04:44 01:04:54
- 28 Ms. Ahmed
- 29 I am happy to maybe present at another time -- there is a good
- 30 amount of research literature that would be really great to

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1 share with you all. but, yeah, so it's a really, great
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- 2 discussion, and I figured you would just, table topics that we
- 3 weren't able to cover at this time.

- **5** 01:04:56 01:05:17
- 6 Marie Elizabeth Ramas
- 7 I do apologize, that that has escaped my awareness. And Ms.
- 8 Ahmed, and I would definitely appreciate to hear from you, my
- 9 apologies.

10

- **11** 01:05:18 01:05:19
- 12 Ms. Ahmed
- 13 Of course, no problem.

14

- **15** 01:05:27 01:05:44
- 16 Sherri Alderman
- 17 Okay. I apologize as well. And we do have a Social Determinants
- 18 of Health, Social Drivers of Health subcommittee meeting coming
- 19 up. And we will very much make sure and appreciate it if you are
- 20 available to present at that time.

21

- **22** 01:05:49 01:06:21
- 23 Marie Elizabeth Ramas
- 24 Excellent. Again, I do appreciate everyone's input. We certainly
- 25 have some more work to do. I've been actively adding to our
- 26 document as we've been discussing and, both Sherri, myself,
- 27 Belinda and team will consolidate some of the suggestions and
- 28 recommendations, just to be make sure -- will we have the chat
- 29 also saved so that we can refer to it?

30

31 01:06:22 - 01:06:36

- 1 Marie Elizabeth Ramas
- 2 Okay. Thank you. Belinda. And Ms. Ahmed, we will get in touch
- 3 with you as well to see if you have time to return for our
- 4 subcommittee meeting to talk about isolation. Thank you.

- **6** 01:06:37 01:06:38
- 7 Ms. Ahmed
- 8 Sounds great.

9

- **10** 01:06:41 01:06:48
- 11 Marie Elizabeth Ramas
- 12 At the end of our meeting, we'll have the dates, I believe, of
- 13 our subcommittee meetings for those that would be interested.

14

- **15** 01:06:49 01:07:02
- 16 Marie Elizabeth Ramas
- 17 So, please stay tuned. If not, that will be communicated as well
- 18 in our follow-up communications. So I appreciate you. We'll give
- 19 you one minute back before we go back to our main session for
- **20** you.

21

- **22** 01:07:04 01:07:12
- 23 Belinda Pettiford
- 24 Thanks, everyone. We actually start back our main session at
- 25 3:00. So it gives us time to transition. Thank you all.

26

- **27** 01:07:13 01:07:14
- 28 Marie Elizabeth Ramas
- 29 Excellent, Belinda. Thank you.