

## **Community Trust grants focus on reducing maternal morbidity, substance abuse**

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New York Community Trust's latest grant awards, totaling \$8.2 million, focus on reducing maternal morbidity in black women and addressing other high-priority issues.

The trust awarded \$300,000 to the Fund for Public Health in New York to work on better care for black women in hospitals throughout the city. The work will entail providing training for health care providers, including to address life-threatening complications during childbirth. It also will involve providing peer educators to coach pregnant women on their rights when it comes to maternity care.

The trust highlighted the fact that, during the past two decades, the U.S. has been the only developed nation to see an uptick in pregnancy-related deaths. The alarming trend affects black women most, it said.

Other health-focused grants made by the trust included \$300,000 to the City University of New York to train recovering substance users to provide peer support as well as \$285,000 to the NYU Rory Meyers College of Nursing to train community-based primary care nurses to identify and treat addiction and other behavioral health conditions.

The grants also gave \$150,000 to Medicaid Matters New York to advocate for individuals with disabilities in the transition to Medicaid managed care, and \$60,000 to the Citizens Budget Commission to work on solutions to address the health insurance coverage gap.