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**Six Dimensions, LLC awarded \$185,000 to address Black maternal mortality in Mississippi**

Ridgeland, MS - Six Dimension, LLC was awarded a three-year grant of \$185,000 by the W.K. Kellogg Foundation of Jackson, MS to improve Black maternal mortality rates and address maternal mortality inequities. The Health and Racial Equity in Maternal Care Project will run from January 2021 to December 2023 by educating health care and public health professionals through a health and racial equity lens.

“Every year in the United States, more than 700 women die from pregnancy-related complications. When considering race, Black women are 3-4 times more likely to die from pregnancy-related complications than White women. Data shows that though maternal mortality is complex, fundamentally, systemic racism has facilitated present-day inequities,” said Dr. Nakeitra Burse, owner and CEO of Six Dimensions, LLC. “There is an urgent need to prepare professionals to integrate systems thinking strategies to more equitably address maternal mortality.”

Based on the short documentary, *Laboring with Hope*, that focuses on the maternal experiences of Black women in Mississippi, the grant will support the introduction of a Black maternal health training curriculum for healthcare and public health professionals in Mississippi. The Health and Racial Equity in Maternal Care Project will encourage open dialogue on the historical inequities in maternal mortality and impart practical strategies for being agents of change relative to maternal health.

This project will aim to support the need for racial equity training as a necessary component in improving maternal health outcomes. “We are committed to ensuring expectant mothers in Mississippi receive equitable care from their health care professionals,” said Monét Kees, Project Coordinator.

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**About Six Dimensions, LLC**

*Six Dimensions, LLC is a certified minority-owned, woman-owned public health research, development and practice company focused on creating healthier communities across the United States. Established*

*to holistically and strategically respond to the public health needs of communities, Six Dimensions, LLC utilizes an ecological and systemic approach to improve the health of communities. Six Dimensions, LLC services focus on developing innovative, strategic, and sustainable public health strategies to improve the health of communities. For more information, visit [www.sixdims.com](http://www.sixdims.com).*

**About the W.K. Kellogg Foundation**

*The W.K. Kellogg Foundation (WKKF), founded in 1930 as an independent, private foundation by breakfast cereal innovator and entrepreneur Will Keith Kellogg, is among the largest philanthropic foundations in the United States. Guided by the belief that all children should have an equal opportunity to thrive, WKKF works with communities to create conditions for vulnerable children so they can realize their full potential in school, work, and life.*

*The Kellogg Foundation is based in Battle Creek, Michigan, and works throughout the United States and internationally, as well as with sovereign tribes. Special attention is paid to priority places where there are high concentrations of poverty and where children face significant barriers to success. WKKF priority places in the U.S. are in Michigan, Mississippi, New Mexico, and New Orleans; and internationally, are in Mexico and Haiti. For more information, visit [www.wkkf.org](http://www.wkkf.org).*