

City of Commerce City, Colorado



Proclamation

WHEREAS, In the United States, 1 in 5 women suffer from a pregnancy related mental health disorder which can occur at any time during pregnancy and well beyond one year postpartum, making perinatal mental health conditions the most common complication of pregnancy and 75% never get care.

WHEREAS, The United States ranks highest among industrialized nations in maternal mortality with perinatal mental health (PMH) conditions being the one of the leading causes of mortality. With regards to morbidity and mortality, rates among the Black and Native American birthing populations are even higher.

WHEREAS, Causes of these preventable deaths include inadequate screening and referral protocols, socio-cultural factors, lack of community-based care, and too many maternity care deserts across the country. Causes also include the intense shame that can deter mothers from seeking help.

WHEREAS, Employment, income, housing, food security, and transportation are all closely linked to health and wellness and can magnify perinatal mental health conditions or in fact be the exact barriers to obtaining adequate treatment.

WHEREAS, Commerce City must maintain its efforts to maximize health prior to pregnancy for our residents, including, but not limited to, preventing smoking, improving access to physical and nutritional wellness, improving economic outcomes for women, expanding and increasing family friendly workplace policies, supporting childcare industry recovery, reducing sexually transmitted diseases, reducing domestic violence, reducing gun violence; and reducing housing insecurity and homelessness.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Council of Commerce City, hereby declares May 2025 as Maternal Mental Health Awareness Month in Commerce City and acknowledges that healthy parents lead to healthy children and families, which in turn leads to healthy cities for our future residents.

CITY OF COMMERCE CITY, COLORADO

Steve J. Douglas, Mayor