### Perinatal Mood and Anxiety Disorders

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Northeast and Caribbean (HHS Region 2)

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INCLUSIVE AND
ACCEPTING OF
DIVERSE CULTURES,
GENDERS,
PERSPECTIVES,
AND EXPERIENCES

HEALING-CENTERED AND TRAUMA-RESPONSIVE

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RESPECTFUL, CLEAR AND UNDERSTANDABLE

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### Meet Today's Presenter



Marianela Rodriguez-Reynaldo , PhD, PMH-C

# Perinatal Mood and Anxiety Disorders

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# Objectives

- 1. Discuss the prevalence of perinatal mental disorders and their impact on birthing individuals and families.
- 2. Describe signs and symptoms of common mental disorders during the perinatal period.
- 3. Identify relevant resources available for mental health support of birthing and postpartum individuals.

# PMADS: Perinatal Mood and Anxiety Disorders

PERINATAL

Pregnancy+1year postpartum

MOOD

Depression, Bipolar Disorder, or Psychosis

**ANXIETY** 

General Anxiety, OCD, or PTSD

**DISORDERS** 

Affecting mood, thinking, and behavior and interfering with functioning and day-today life

# Perinatal Mental Health disorders are the #1 complication of childbirth

#### **PREVALENT**

1 in 5 women experience a mental health condition in pregnancy or postpartum

#### **UNDER REPORTED**

Conservative numbers, does not include women who miscarry or those who "treat" on own

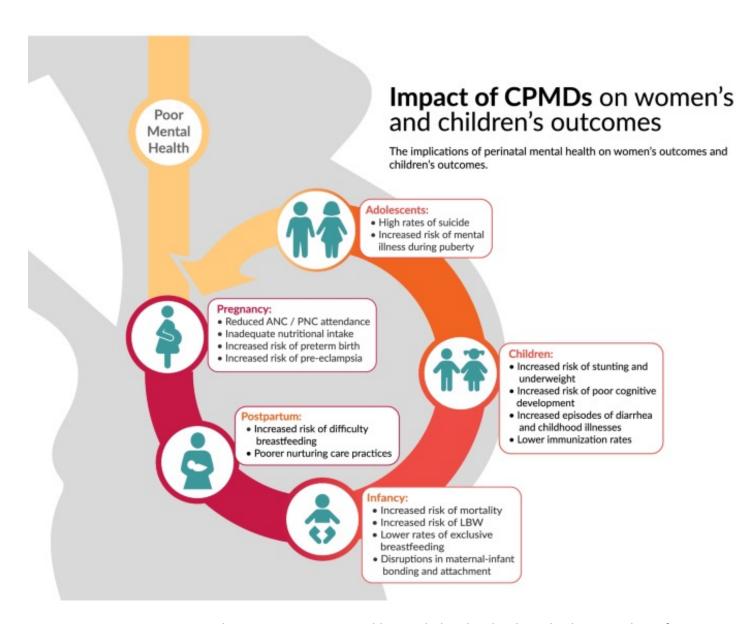
#### **UNTREATED**

Only **30%** who screen positive receive treatment

### Prevalence within BIPOC

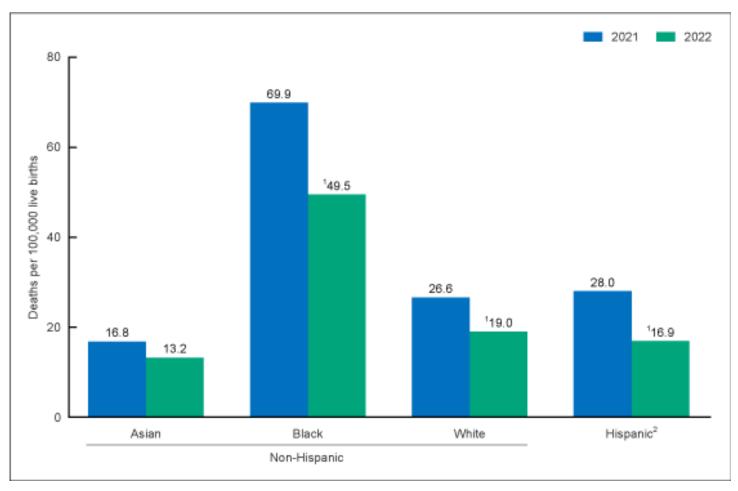
- Latinx exhibit a higher prevalence of perinatal mental health disorder(s) and are less likely to be identified or receive adequate mental health care (Lara-Cinisomo, Clark, & Wood, 2018).
- Less than half of low-SES Black women received counseling or medication in the six months after giving birth compared to white women of low-SES (Kozhimannil et al., 2011).
- A larger proportion of Native American and Alaska Native women experience mental health symptoms during the perinatal period relative to the general population. More research is needed to better understand the nature and extent of perinatal distress within this group (Bowen et al., 2014).

## Implications



## Maternal Mortality in the US

\* Mental health conditions account for **22.7%** of pregnancy-related deaths.



# Risk factors



Personal or family history of mental illness



Life stressors or difficult transitions



Lack of healthy social and/or family support



Previous trauma or abuse (including during pregnancy)



Complications with delivery, breastfeeding, or birth



Infant temperament or "high needs"; Multiples



History of infertility or perinatal loss



Sleep deprivation

Figure 6

# Health disparities are driven by social and economic inequities that are rooted in historic and ongoing racism and discrimination

Economic Stability	Neighborhood and Physical Environment	Education	Food	Community, Safety, & Social Context	Health Care System
		Racism and	Discrimination		
Employment	Housing	Literacy	Food security	Social integration	Health coverage
Income Expenses Debt Medical bills Support	Transportation Parks Playgrounds Walkability Zip code/ geography	Language Early childhood education Vocational training Higher education	Access to healthy options	Support systems  Community engagement Stress Exposure to violence/trauma Policing/justice policy	Provider & pharmac availability  Access to linguistically and culturally appropriate & respectful care  Quality of care

Health and Well-Being:

Mortality, Morbidity, Life Expectancy, Health Care Expenditures, Health Status, Functional Limitations



## Maternity deserts

- Defined as "any county ... without a hospital or birth center offering obstetric care and without any obstetric providers" (March of Dimes, 2022)
- 96% of birthing-aged, American women live in maternal mental health professional shortage areas
- 70% of U.S. counties lack sufficient maternal mental health resources
- Nearly 700 counties face a high risk for maternal mental health disorders
- Over 150 counties fall into the "Maternal Mental Health Dark Zone" with both high-risk and large resource gaps









### Life transition

- Body-hormonal changes
- Role and identity
- Relationship
- Cultural assumptions
- Reproductive journey
- Expectations meet reality

### Perinatal mental disorders include:

- Depression\*
- Anxiety and panic disorders
- Obsessive compulsive disorder (OCD)
- Post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD)
- Bipolar disorder\*

- Postpartum psychosis
- Perinatal substance misuse
- Parental suicide
- Complicated grief after perinatal loss

## Is this normal?

	ZZZ		<b>(a)</b>	75		
	SLEEP DEPRIVATION	BONDING WITH BABY	YOUR MIND IS	YOU WORRY	YOU FEEL	AFTER A FEW WEEKS
TYPICAL ADJUSTMENT	MAKES YOU TIRED	HAPPENS SHORTLY AFTER BIRTH	FORGETFUL & DISTRACTED	FOR GOOD REASON	HAPPY & HOPEFUL	YOU GET INTO A GOOD ROUTINE
BABY BLUES	MAKES YOU EMOTIONAL	DOESN'T HAPPEN IMMEDIATELY	FOGGY & UNCLEAR	ABOUT MINOR THINGS	WEEPY & EMOTIONAL	YOU START TO FEEL BETTER
PPD/PPA	MAKES YOU ANGRY	DOESN'T REALLY HAPPEN AT ALL	FULL OF SCARY THOUGHTS	IF YOU ARE A GOOD MOTHER	NOTHING/ GUILT/ EXT. SADNESS	YOU START TO FEEL WORSE

# Depression (26%-32%)<sup>1</sup>



DSM 5- Major Depressive Disorder with peripartum onset

Criteria of 5 or more symptoms present during a 2-week period:

Depressed mood

Anhedonia

Significant weight change

Sleep disturbance

Agitation or retardation

Fatigue

Feelings of worthlessness

Excessive guilt

Recurrent thoughts of death

# Perinatal Anxiety (15%-23%)<sup>1</sup>

#### **GAD**

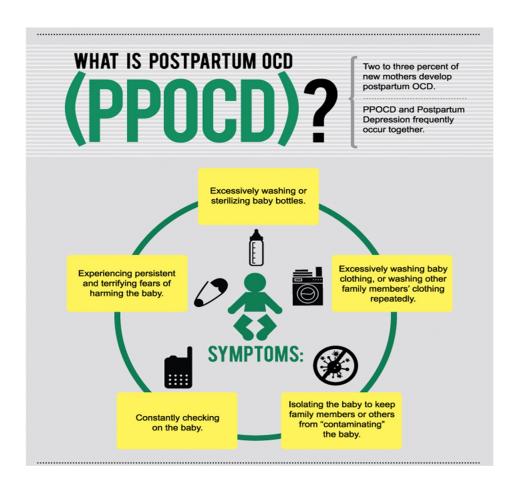
- Excessive worry
- Is the baby feeding enough?
- Why is the baby crying again?
- Is there something wrong?
- Can I do this?
- Googling stillbirth/low fluid/genetic concerns
- What if...

#### **Panic Disorder**

- Intense fear and misinterpretation of bodily sensations
- Fear of harm to baby
- Fear of losing control; dying
- Waking up in the night with worries
- Not feeling like self
- Fear of fear

# Perinatal OCD (2%-24%)<sup>1</sup>

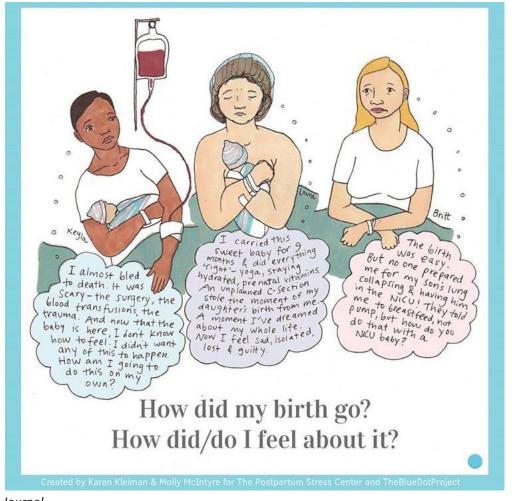
- Concerns/images about hurting the baby, during or after pregnancy.
- Disturbing thoughts/images of sexually abusing the child.
- Significant worries regarding the health/safety of baby, self, or partner.
- Fear of making the wrong decision for example: regarding, sleep, childcare, vaccinations, medical treatment.



# Birth Trauma (4%-45%)<sup>1</sup>

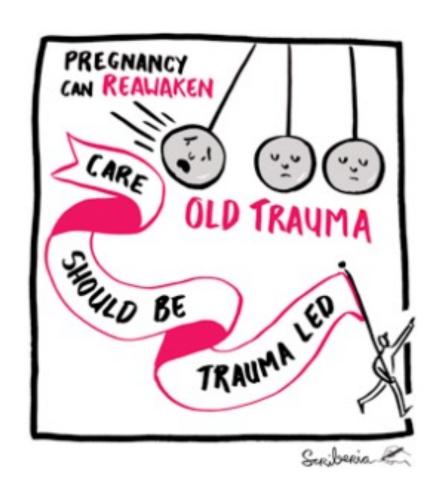
"A traumatic childbirth experience refers to a woman's experience of interactions and/or events directly related to childbirth that caused overwhelming distressing emotions and reactions; leading to short and/ or long-term negative impacts on a woman's health and wellbeing."

(Leinweber et al., 2022)

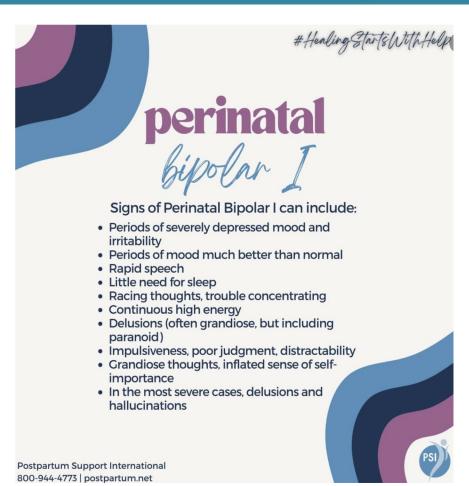


### Perinatal Traumatic events

- Disrespect and abuse during childbirth
- Undergoing unnecessary and extensive interventions (episiotomy, forceps)
- Prematurity, NICU, Stillbirth
- Hyperemesis gravidarum
- Fetal anomaly diagnosis
- Poor response to anesthesia
- Lack of informed consent during labor
- Feeling coerced
- Separation from newborn



# Bipolar Disorder (2.6%-20.1%)<sup>1</sup>



- Cleaning in the middle of the night;
   spending excessive amount of money.
- Hypomania may improve functioning.
- Mania -functioning is impaired; more severe.
- No need for sleep
- Bipolar II- "PPD imposter"
- 70% of women with Bipolar Disorder relapsed within the first six months postpartum

# Psychosis (1%-2%)<sup>1</sup>

- Delusions or strange beliefs
- Symptoms can wax and wane
- Hallucinations
- Hyperactivity
- Paranoia and suspiciousness
- Rapid mood swings
- Difficulty communicating at times
- Feeling like baby is possessed

#### POSTPARTUM PSYCHOSIS

Be informed. Be aware.







- Do you or anyone in your family have a history of bipolar illness or psychosis?
- Do you feel you have to hide what you are feeling or thinking so no one knows?
- Do you feel like a stranger to yourself?
- Do you feel disconnected from loved ones and friends?
- Are people telling you that you are speaking or acting differently than you usually do?
- Do things that make sense to you not make sense to others?
- Do you have a decreased need for sleep or food and/or feel better than you have ever felt in your life?
- Are your thoughts racing making you feel unable to concentrate or make decisions?
- Do you believe you hear things or see things that others do not?
- Are you suspicious of others or worried that others are out to get you in some way?
- · Do you feel confused or disoriented?

THE POSTPARTUM STRESS CENTE

# POSTPARTUM MENTAL HEALTH IS A MEN'S ISSUE

DAD'S EXPERIENCE GRIEF OVER THEIR OLD LIFE AND IDENTITY

DAD'S HORMONES
ALSO SHIFT AND
CHANGE IN THE
POSTPARTUM
PERIOD

1 IN 10 DADS EXPERIENCE POSTPARTUM DEPRESSION

18% OF DADS
DEVELOP A
CLINICALLY
SIGNIFICANT
ANXIETY
DISORDER

DAD'S CAN ALSO EXPERIENCE TRAUMA DURING PREGNANCY AND BIRTH

1 IN 5 OF THEIR PARTNERS WILL EXPERIENCE PPD/PPA

DAD'S ARE 50%
MORE LIKELY TO
EXPERIENCE
POSTPARTUM
DEPRESSION OR
ANXIETY IF THEIR
PARTNER HAS
PPA/PPD



## What fathers may manifest

- "Checking out"
- Feeling burden
- Sleep deprivation
- Anger, irritability
- Anxiety
- Isolation
- Jealousy, feeling "left out"
- Cultural/social expectation to "man up!"



# Other experiences that impact PMH

- ACE
- IPV
- Fertility challenges
- NICU
- History of sexual trauma
- Breast/chestfeeding (D-MER)

- Disability
- Age
- Substance misuse
- Eating disorders
- Immigration
- Fetal diagnosis

"What's the bravest thing you've ever said?" asked the boy.



# Screening & Support

### An ideal time to screen

- A person with an uncomplicated pregnancy has an average of 25 interactions with healthcare providers during the perinatal period.
- Pregnant and postpartum individuals often interact with nonmedical community-based providers—such as doulas, childbirth educators, lactation consultants, home visitors, and community health workers.
- The perinatal period also offers a unique opportunity to have a two-generation approach.

## **Screening Best Practices**

- All birthing persons should be screened by their providers during:
  - ✓ First prenatal visit
  - ✓ At least once in second trimester & third trimester
  - ✓ Six-week postpartum obstetrical visit (or at first postpartum visit)
  - ✓ Repeated screening at 6 and/or 12 months
  - ✓ 3, 9, and 12-month pediatric visits
- Ideally provided in a private setting

## **Screening Tools**

- Healthy Pregnancy Stress Scale (HPSS)
- Edinburgh Postnatal Depression Scale (EPDS)\*
- Patient Health Questionnaire, (PHQ-2) (PHQ-9)
- Generalized Anxiety Disorder (GAD-7)
- Perinatal Anxiety Screening Scale (PASS)
- Mood Disorder Questionnaire (MDQ)
- Obsessive Compulsive Inventory (OCI-12)
- City Birth Trauma Scale
- PTSD Checklist Civilian version (PCL-C)

## **Educate client and family**

- Create a safe, comfortable environment for conversation.
- Normalize PMH in conversation.
- Avoid judgement, reduce fear of disclosure.
- Encourage small action steps.
- Support mother-baby bonding.
- Be culturally sensitive.
- Know your resources.



## Words Matter

~	
C	ソ

### Instead of saying this:



### Try saying this:

You are just a new mom, everyone struggles. Welcome to motherhood!	Having a baby is a life-changing event, and it is completely common to feel stressed and overwhelmed about your new life immediately after giving birth.
Your baby is healthy, you are fine. Don't worry about it.	If you don't like how you are feeling, help is available. The quicker you get support for these feelings, the quicker you will feel more like yourself again. Let me give you some names.
You are tough, you can do this if you try hard enough.	Getting help is never a sign of weakness. In fact, it can be a sign of strength that you are speaking up and surrounding yourself with good support.

### The Perinatal Lens as Framework

The perinatal lens encourages us to look beyond signs & symptoms and to consider all the areas impacting a client during this season.

- Sleep disruptions
- Identity shifts
- Impact on relationships
- Career changes
- Financial strains
- Body changes
- Cultural traditions/implications
- Reproductive history

# Evidence based and emerging practices

- Cognitive Behavior Therapy (CBT)
- Interpersonal Therapy (IPT)
- Dialectical Behavioral Therapy (DBT)
- Eye Movement Desensitization and Reprocessing (EMDR)
- Family Therapy
- Group Therapy
- Mindfulness; Mind-Body Techniques
- Medication
- Peer Support





#### The Global Champion for Perinatal Mental Health

Perinatal mental health (PMH) disorders are the most frequent complication of childbearing and the top underlying cause of pregnancy-related deaths in the United States. They can have a huge impact on individuals, families, and society as a whole-but too often are unrecognized, undiagnosed, and untreated, leaving hundreds of thousands of people each year to suffer in silence.

For 35 years, Postpartum Support International (PSI) has been leading the global effort to improve awareness and treatment of PMH disorders and connect people with the care they need. We work in over 50 countries to connect experts and patients, to boost scientific knowledge and emotional understanding, and to develop and deliver effective interventions.

### PMH Disorders: A Serious and Widespread Problem

Perinatal mental health disorders can appear anytime during pregnancy and the first 12 months after childbirth-the perinatal period. They affect people of every age, race, ethnicity, income, and culture.

PMH disorders include perinatal depression, anxiety, obsessive compulsive disorder, post-traumatic stress disorder, bipolar mood disorders, and psychosis. Left untreated, they can lead to learning and behavioral problems in children, premature or underweight births, impaired parent-child bonding, and an increase in maternal mortality.

The good news is that support and resources are available and can help prevent these complications.



#### A Champion for Change

PSI works to end the stigma and silence around PMH disorders by raising public awareness, advancing scientific expertise, and providing emotional and logistical support. In partnership with our dedicated global staff, volunteers, members, and affiliated organizations, we:

- connect individuals and families with a wealth of support services and resources:
- train health professionals to better recognize and treat PMH disorders; and
- advocate for policies and programs that advance perinata i mental health.

postpartum.net



#### **Perinatal Mental Health Discussion Tool**

As many as 1 in 7 moms (1 in 10 dads) experience symptoms of depression and anxiety during the postpartum period. People of every age, income level, race and culture can develop Perinatal Mood Disorders (PMDs) during pregnancy and within the first year after delivery. This tool can help track your symptoms and discuss them with your medical provider. Being your own advocate is okay and you deserve to be well.

#### I have been experiencing the following symptoms: (please mark all that apply)

- O Feeling depressed or void of feeling
- Feelings of hopelessness
- Lack of interest in the baby Trouble concentrating
- Brain feels foggy
- O Feeling anxious or panicky
- O Feeling anary or irritable
- Dizziness or heart palpitations
- O Not able to sleep when baby sleeps
- Extreme worries or fears (including the health and safety of the baby)

- O Flashbacks regarding the pregnancy or delivery
- O Avoiding things related to the delivery
- Scarv and unwanted thoughts
- O Feeling an urge to repeat certain behaviors to reduce anxiety
- O Needing very little sleep while still functioning
- O Feeling more energetic than usual
- O Seeing images or hearing sounds that others cannot see/hear
- Thoughts of harming yourself or the baby

#### **Risk Factors**

Below are several proven risk factors associated with postpartum depression (PPD) and postpartum anxiety (PPA). Knowing these risk factors ahead of time can help you communicate more effectively with your family and medical provider and put a strong self-care plan in place.

#### Please mark all risk factors that apply:

- O History of depression or anxiety
- History of bipolar disorder
- History of psychosis
- O History of diabetes or thyroid issues
- History of PMS
- O History of sexual trauma or abuse
- O Family history of mental illness
- O Traumatic pregnancy or delivery
- O Preanancy or infant loss

- O Birth of Multiples
- O Baby in the NICU
- Relationship issues
- O Financial struagles
- Sinale mother
- O Teen mother
- O No or little social support Away from home country
- O Challenges with breastfeeding

#### RESOURCES

www.postpartum.net

- PSI Helpline: For local resources please call or text "HELP" 800,944,4773. We can provide information. encouragement, and names of resources near you.
- FREE Online Weekly Support Groups: Led by a trained facilitator. For days and times please visit: http://www.postpartum.net/get-help/psi-online-support-meetings/
- FREE Psychiatric Consult Line: Your medical provider can call 877,499,4773 and speak with a reproductive psychiatrist to learn about medications commonly used in the perinatal time period. For more detailed information please visit: http://www.postpartum.net/professionals/perinatal-psychiatric-consult-line/

<sup>\*\*</sup> This is not a diagnostic tool and should not take the place of an actual diagnosis by a licensed professional. \*\*

# Support groups and information

### PSI ONLINE SUPPORT **GROUPS SCHEDULE**

### **WEEKLY GROUPS:**

MON: • Perinatal Mood Support for Moms

• Postpartum Psychosis Support for Moms

Perinatal Mood Support for Parents

Pregnancy After Loss Support

TUF: • Perinatal Mood Support for Moms

Perinatal Mood Support for Parents

Perinatal OCD Support for Moms

Apoyo Perinatal

Black Moms Connect

Pregnancy Mood Support

Early Pregnancy Lost Support for Moms

Support for Parents of 1-4 Year Old Children

Perinatal Mood Support for Returning Members

WED: • Perinatal Mood Support for Moms

Perinatal Mood Support for Parents

· Queer & Trans Parents

Mindfulness for Parents

Perinatal Mood Support for Moms

NICU Parents

· Fertility Challenges

Termination for Medical Reasons

. Pregnancy & Infant Loss for Parents

. Pregnancy & Infant Loss for Moms Perinatal Mood Support for Parents

· Support for Parents of 1-4 Year Old Children

- . 1st & 3rd Monday: Birth Trauma Support \*\* 1st & 3rd Tuesday - Perinatal Bipolar Support \*
- 1st & 3rd Tuesday Pregnancy Mood Support \*
- . 1st & 3rd Thursday Desi Chaat (South Asian Moms)
- 1st & 3rd Thursday Pregnancy & Infant Loss for Parents
- . 1st and 3rd Friday Stillbirth and Infant Loss Support for Parents
- 1st & 3rd Sunday Post-Abortion Support
- · 1st & 3rd Sunday Perinatal Mood Support for Parents
- \*Perinatal Bipolar Support Group and Pregnancy Mood Support do meet weekly just on different days (Tue & Wed)

  "Birth Trauma Support meets weekly just on different days (1st & 3rd
  Monday, 2nd & 4th Wednesday)

- 2nd & 4th Tuesday Post-Abortion Support
- . 2nd & 4th Tuesday Pregnancy & Infant Loss for Parents
- 2nd & 4th Wednesday Perinatal Bipolar Support \*
- · 2nd & 4th Wednesday Pregnancy Mood Support \*
- · 2nd & 4th Wednesday Birth Trauma Support \*\*
- · 2nd & 4th Wednesday Pregnancy Mood Support
- . 2nd & 4th Wednesday Special Needs & Medically Fragile Parenting
- 2nd & 4th Wednesday Military Moms (Pregnancy & Postpartum)
- · 2nd & 4th Thursday Black Moms in Loss
- 2nd and 4th Thursdays Perinatal Support for Latinx Moms and Birthing People
- 2nd & 4th Friday: Perinatal Mood Support for Parents
- . 2nd & 4th Sunday Pregnant and Postpartum Parents of Multiples

#### **MONTHLY GROUPS:**

 1st Wednesday - Support for Families Impacted by Postpartum Psychosis

· 1st Wednesday - Birth Moms

· 2nd Monday / Lunes - Spanish Solo Mama: Madres Independientes



**SCAN HERE FOR** UP-TO-DATE







LUNES	MARTES	MIÉRCOLES	JUEVES	VIERNE
PADRES C/NIÑOS ESPECIALES  PÉRDIDA Y DUELO  CONCIENCIA PLENA	PERINATAL POSPARTO TALLER DE ESCRITURA (Meses pares)	EMBARAZO     PLAN DE     POSPARTO 1	TEMAS MIGRATORIOS	
UCIN O NICU     MAMÁS INDEPEN- DIENTES	PERINATAL     FERTILIDAD     LACTANCIA	• EMBARAZO	• PPP Y BIPOLAR	• FAMILIAS DIVERSAS
CONCIENCIA PLENA	PERINATAL     POSPARTO     AUTOESTIMA     E INTIMIDAD	EMBARAZO     MAMÁS     TEENS     PLAN DE     POSPARTO 2		CRIANZA
PARA     PAPÁS     (Último lunes     del mes)	PERINATAL     FERTILIDAD     LACTANCIA	• EMBARAZO	PÉRDIDA Y DUELO	

ostpartum Support International en Español | 800-944-4773 #1 | postpartum.net

# If you are working with a parent who is struggling...



Call the Free PSI HelpLine 1-800-944-4773 (4PPD) or text 503-894-9453 Someone will return message within 24 hours



Visit https://psidirectory.com Search free online directory of vetted providers and support groups



Prescribers can call PSI Perinatal Psychiatric Consultation Line 1-800-944-4773, ext 4

Medical prescribers (only) can consult with experts



THE NATIONAL MATERNAL MENTAL HEALTH HOTLINE IS HERE!

1-833-943-5746

CALL OR TEXT FOR 24/7 FREE, CONFIDENTIAL SUPPORT, RESOURCES, & UNDERSTANDING IN ENGLISH & SPANISH FOR ALL PREGNANCY & POSTPARTUM MENTAL HEALTH CONCERNS.

POSTPARTUM SUPPORT INTERNATIONAL | POSTPARTUM.NET



When you pay attention to the beginning of the story, you can change the rest of the story

# Q and A



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### **Evaluation Information**

The MHTTC Network is funded through SAMHSA to provide this training. As part of receiving this funding we are required to submit data related to the quality of this event.

At the end of today's training please take a moment to complete a **brief** survey about today's training.



# Certificate of Completion

A Certificate of Completion will automatically be emailed to all online participants within 7 days of webinar broadcast.

### **Connect With Us**

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The purpose of the MHTTC Network is technology transfer - disseminating and implementing evidence-based practices for mental disorders into the field.

Funded by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), the MHTTC Network includes 10 Regional Centers, a National American Indian and Alaska Native Center, a National Hispanic and Latino Center, and a Network Coordinating Office.

Our collaborative network supports resource development and dissemination, training and technical assistance, and workforce development for the mental health field. We work with systems, organizations, and treatment practitioners involved in the delivery of mental health services to strengthen their capacity to deliver effective evidence-based practices to individuals.

Our services cover the full continuum spanning mental illness prevention, treatment, and recovery support.

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