

# **Supporting Baden Mothers Community Initiative Living With Purpose**



# **North Star**

Zero racial disparities in infant mortality by 2033.

## **High Infant Mortality Zip Codes**



# How much did we do?



**77**Parents served



15 Counseling sessions



8

Months of rent paid



Families received furniture



**25** 

Housing referrals/assistance

#### **Items Distributed**



8 Bus passes



20 Clothing vouchers



Save A Lot gift cards



Household product supply bundles

## **Program Description**

This FLOURISH grant funded the Supporting Baden Mothers Community Initiative at Living With Purpose. The purpose of this project was to help single mothers in the Baden community with transportation, food, clothing, housing and technology needs. This project took place from April 2021 to September 2022.

# **Priority Areas**

FLOURISH Community Leaders Cabinet identified priority areas they believe will have the most significant impact on improving conditions for Black families. Infant mortality is a complex issue that can't be solved by one organization alone. Below, you will find population level data where FLOURISH is contributing to changes for Black families alongside other organizations. Living With Purpose is working to move the needle for the individuals they serve in the areas listed below.

FLOURISH	Category of	Population
Priority Area	Work	Level Data
Coordinated Quality Care	Perinatal Behavioral Health	<ul> <li>Maternal Substance         Use</li> <li>Maternal/Postpartum         Depression</li> <li>Poor Mental Health         Days</li> <li>Frequent Mental         Health Distress</li> <li>Physical Abuse During         Pregnancy</li> <li>Stress Life Events         During Pregnancy</li> </ul>

FLOURISH uses a results-based accountability model of evaluation, because it helps show how collaborative efforts can make an impact on reducing disparities in infant mortality. We focus on how well programs address root causes of the issue and whether Black pregnant and parenting families are better off.

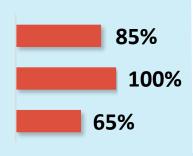
## How well did we do it?

#### Percent of ...

Families connected with all the resources they need to be successful

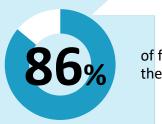
Children with adequate school supplies

Families continuing to engage with Living With Purpose programs



# Is anyone better off?

What change occurred as a result of this project?



of families achieved their goals

## **Technology & Transportation Accessibility**

#### Types of tasks the computer center is used for:



G.E.D. Instruction

Job applications

Job searches

Zoom

Internet access

**Printing** 



"I know Baden needs help. I know the community has a lot of people living in poverty. I know it has a lot to do with drug addictions and there are too many people on the street. I've lived in this neighborhood since I was three. I've seen things that used to be here aren't here anymore. Businesses leaving. The trucking thing here, I feel like it was a waste. In North County they got this big transfer center. Why couldn't they make this a transfer center? If we were able to build up Baden better, this could have been Black Wallstreet. This could have been full of Black entrepreneurs. Instead, we got vacant lots."

-Anonymous

## **Project Impact**



We were able to provide food assistance that helped to sustain families in need during the COVID-19 pandemic. We also had a good number of expectant mothers who were able to benefit from the food assistance and clothing vouchers. Additionally, the furniture assistance helped families who did not have mattresses and beds for their children. Also, some families were in default of rent, so we were able to keep them in their housing.

## **Baden Community**

We learned more about the people in our neighborhood. There are many more senior citizens and people who receive disability than we previously knew. Many of them are also raising their grandchildren and are the primary caregivers. Since our organization is at the intersection of North City and North County, there were many people who came to our organization for assistance who did not reside in the Baden neighborhood. This highlighted a great need in North City and North County.

The Baden Coalition meetings are especially important because they allow the community to convene and discuss pressing issues for the Baden neighborhood and initiatives we will implement in order to strengthen the community. Some of those include public safety through traffic control, reallocation of the district's budget, strengthening the business community, and stemming drug abuse and violence in the neighborhood. Other methods of strengthening our community would be to increase the number of partner organizations that provide housing assistance and utility assistance.

## **Partnerships**

By connecting with Baden residents, we were able to leverage those relationships for other programming at Living with Purpose. We were able to build rapport with community members so they now attend more events at Living with Purpose and come here for the resources that were provided through FLOURISH, primarily our Community Technology Office. We also appreciate the connection to the St. Louis Area Diaper Bank as many families and pregnant women were able to pick those up from our office. Finally, the connection with Prevent-Ed as our fiscal sponsor has led to a whole other branch of programming at Living with Purpose. Many organizations have a need and a desire to establish drug treatment centers in Black neighborhoods, so we were connected with drug and overdose resources that people vitally need in Baden.





**FLOURISH St. Louis**, an infant mortality reduction initiative powered by Generate Health, is bringing together people and organizations across the region to fix the systems that impact the health of Black families. This organization received a FLOURISH grant which was funded by Missouri Foundation for Health.