

Reminder: Advisory: Rep. Adams Hosts Women's Symposium on Thursday, April 16

Rep. Adams Press [sam.spencer@mail.house.gov]

Sent: Monday, April 13, 2020 10:23 AM

To: Steve Johnston



Advisory: Rep. Adams Hosts Rescheduled Women's Symposium on Thursday, April 16

Symposium will be held via Zoom during Black Maternal Health Week

Charlotte – The office of **Congresswoman Alma S. Adams, Ph.D. (D-NC)** will hold its Annual Women's Symposium at 6:00 PM on Thursday, April 16 via Zoom. This year's event is titled "**The Women's Symposium on Black Maternal Health: The State of Black Maternal Health During COVID-19.**" The Symposium will focus on the health of America's mothers and babies during the coronavirus pandemic, solutions for greater access to quality health care for mothers and infants, and what it will take to address the disparities in maternal health outcomes for black women. The Symposium takes place during Black Maternal Health Week.

"100 years after winning the right to vote, women continue to fight for equal representation, respect, and rights. When it comes to Black maternal health, many women unexpectedly end up in the fight of their lives" **said Congresswoman Adams.** "Our 5th annual Women's Symposium will address critical issues facing women, mothers, and children. Women are leaders in our communities regardless of sex, but we can't forget that we still face critical issues that only women can solve."

[Members of the public can register here.](#) The event is open press.

WHAT: Women's Symposium on the Health of America's Moms and Babies
HOST: Congresswoman Alma Adams
WHEN: April 16, 2020, 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm
WHERE: Zoom; register at adams.house.gov/meeting
WHO: Keynote Speakers Dr. Octavia Cannon & Dr. Augustus Garland Parker III

Additionally, Congresswoman Adams will be on hand to speak about congressional priorities and legislation regarding maternal health, including the **[Black Maternal Health Omnibus of 2020.](#)**

The Women's Symposium is an annual event hosted by the office of Congresswoman Alma Adams. Previous guests include House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, Natalie Williams, Astrid Chirinos, Jess George, Dr. Jessica Schorr Saxe, and many others. This year's symposium will focus on health for all women, and mothers and future mothers from all backgrounds are especially encouraged to attend.

Congresswoman Adams is a mother and grandmother, and one year ago today she launched the Black Maternal Health Caucus with **Rep. Lauren Underwood** to raise awareness within Congress to establish Black maternal health as a national priority, and explore and advocate for effective, evidence-based, culturally-competent policies and best practices for health outcomes for Black mothers. The Black Maternal Health Caucus aims to ensure that Black women and infants have the rights, respect, and resources to thrive before, during, and after pregnancy.

The United States has the worst maternal health outcomes in the developed world, at 17.4 deaths per 100,000 live births. The maternal mortality rate is alarmingly higher among black women, at 37.1 deaths per 100,000 live births. Black women are nearly three times more likely than white women – and more than twice as likely as women of other races – to die from preventable, pregnancy-related complications. Additionally, Black women are twice as likely to lose an infant to premature death. The disparities in America’s health system have not improved for more than 30 years.

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