




Elevating Power through Healing-Centered Action: Reflections from the Greater Boston Birth Equity Coalition

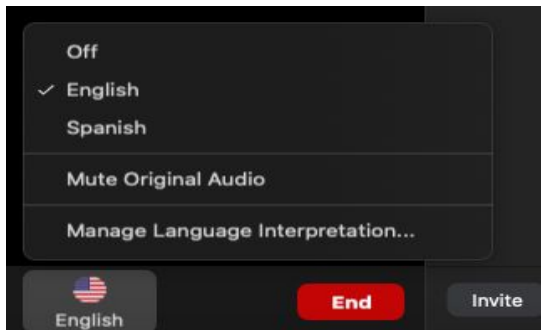
April 25, 2024

*2024 NOW Webinar Series, Imperative of NOW:
Community Power and Healing-Centered Advocacy*

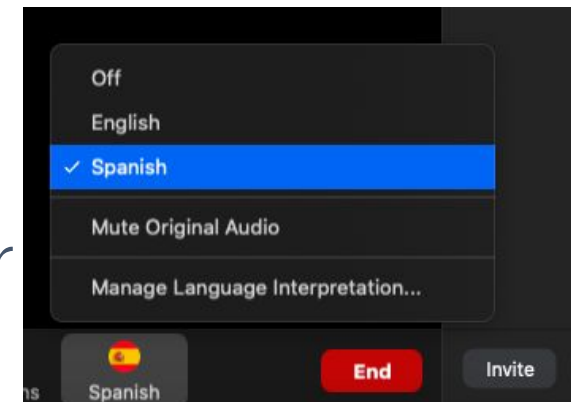


Language Justice: Zoom Webinar Interpretación/ Interpretation

1. In your meeting/webinar controls, click Interpretation. 
2. Click the language that you would like to hear.
3. (Optional) To only hear the interpreted language, click Mute Original Audio.



1. En los controles de la reunión o el seminario web, hacer clic en Interpretación.
2. Hacer clic en el idioma que desee escuchar.
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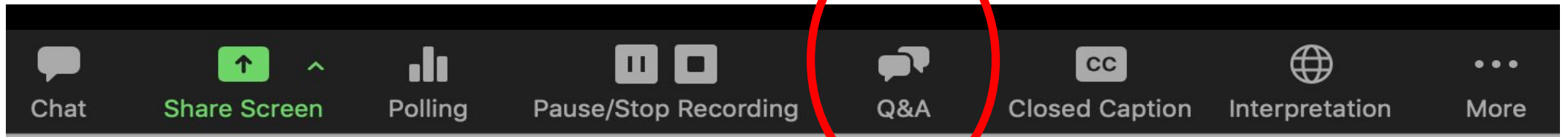


Housekeeping

- Spanish Language Access
 - Community Language Cooperative (CLC) based in Denver, CO
- Slides and recording will be posted on the NOW Forum (<https://www.networksofopportunity.org/Webinar>)
- Submit questions on dashboard
- Use the chat box for comments

Q&A

- Submit your questions by clicking on the Q&A icon at the bottom of your screen





Session Outline

- Welcome & Overview
- About Vital Village Networks and NOW
- *Elevating Power through Healing-Centered Action: Reflections from the Greater Boston Birth Equity Coalition*
- GBBEC Discussion and Audience Q&A
- Closing

About Vital Village Networks

Vital Village Networks is a national collective of diverse change-makers and organizations committed to pioneering sustainable approaches to transforming child, family, and community wellbeing

Networks of Opportunity for Child Wellbeing (NOW) is a national initiative powered by Vital Village Networks

NOW exists to achieve social transformation and racial justice by partnering with individuals, organizations, institutions, and coalitions across the country to build their capacity to equitably share power with communities that have faced ongoing racial oppression and marginalization.



Guiding Principles

BELONG - Centered in dignity and equity



LEARN - Those closest to the challenge are closest to the solution



ENGAGE - Design with, not for, users



TRANSFORM - Identify and frame challenges to address collectively

NOW Innovation Forum – Sign up to engage with a network of community leaders



¡Ya está en marcha una versión en español de nuestro sitio web!
Estamos muy emocionados de practicar la justicia del idioma,
mientras tanto, le agradecemos su paciencia. ¡Gracias!

<https://www.networksofopportunity.org/>

2024 Webinar Series

Imperative of NOW: Community Power and Healing-Centered Advocacy

- What does it look like to harness, activate and build community power?
- What can we learn from resident-led advocacy movements -- from voter education, birth equity, food systems, and early childhood education -- and their strategies towards self-advocacy, collective action, and legislative change?

Today's Webinar:

Elevating Power through Healing-Centered Action: Reflections from the Greater Boston Birth Equity Coalition

Greater Boston

BIRTH EQUITY COALITION

POWERED BY



VitalVillage

BELONG • LEARN • ENGAGE • TRANSFORM

NETWORKS

**How can we build community power to
achieve equity and justice for birthing families?**

History and Design Process



Governance Principles and Shared Goals

Ensure access to high-quality, culturally-responsive healthcare services (such as mental health and doulas), and create a cohesive referral system that supports holistic, wrap-around care and optimizes health outcomes

Facilitate communication and coordination across existing services, creating a locus of support that can address the diverse needs of birthing people and families

Connect birthing people and their families to the resources (financial, legal, career, childcare) and tangible materials (diapers, formula, breast pumps) necessary to thrive

Educate and empower birthing people and their partners to cultivate self-advocacy and agency in childbirth, and facilitate communal healing by dismantling generational myths and racial biases

Support and promote a career pathway as a doula in order to increase the number of doulas in the Greater Boston area and ensure that birthing families are provided with a doula that is a good fit for them.

This coalition seeks to lead from within, lifting up the individuals, families, and communities in need of support, ensuring that all are seen and heard.

GBBEC Servant Leadership Team



Awara Tete
Mendy
Adeagbo



Tatikqua
Austin



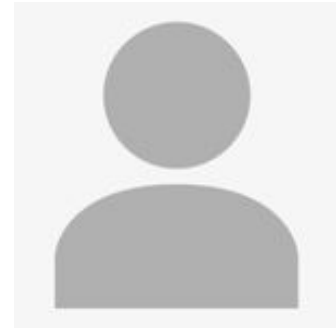
Eurnestine
Brown, PhD



Soraya
DosSantos



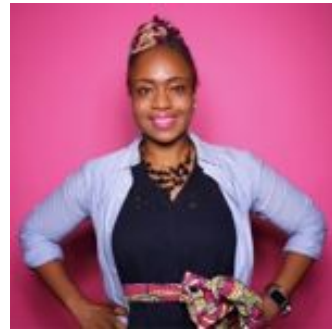
Rita Maria
Fernandes



Tarsha
Gaines



Shamilia
Lloyd



Katia
Powell-Laurent



Candice
Privott



Dymon Lee



Jocelyn
Santos-Luong

2023 Coalition Governance Design Team

- Emily Anesta
- Eurnestine Brown
- Dawn Christie
- Melody Cunningham
- Soraya DosSantos
- Ketaura'h Edwards-Robinson
- Rita Maria Fernandes
- Elaine Fitzgerald-Lewis
- Bonnie Glass
- Linda Hudson
- Rose Molina
- Julie Mottl-Santiago
- Jeannette Myrick
- Jennifer Pfau
- Jessica Pimentel
- Candice Privott
- Vanessa Robinson
- She-Tara Smith
- Merline Sylvain-Williams
- Tiffany Vassell
- Jenny Weaver

Featured Speakers



Lucia Soraya DosSantos

*Co-Founder, Maternal Nurturing Collective,
Founder, Sacred Birthing Village
Southcoast*



Dymon Lee

Union Capital Boston Network Coordinator

Personal Journey Reflections: Soraya DosSantos

o.
"The Revitalization of community is the most important medicine of our times." Rachelle Seliga Garcia



CommUNITY Is
Medicine!



Personal Journey Reflections: Dymon Lee

A photograph of a pregnant woman with dark curly hair, wearing a bright yellow long-sleeved shirt. She is standing in front of a window with white blinds, and her hands are gently resting on her pregnant belly. The lighting is soft and natural, coming from the window behind her.

“Motherhood is the greatest thing and hardest thing.” -Unknown

Greater Boston Birth Equity Coalition

Mission and Vision

The Coalition seeks to ensure **safety, dignity, and respect for birthing families** through connection to **quality care and resources**, provision of support and education, and **uplifting the voices and lived experiences** of those who face disproportionate health challenges and barriers.

The Coalition aims to address the **major gaps in critical forms of social support** and meet the needs of birthing people and their families in Greater Boston, particularly **those most affected by maternal health inequities** (people identifying as **Black, Indigenous, and other minoritized identities**).

Where We Are Today

As a result of our work over the next 3 years we hope to see...

Decolonized Family
Education &
Support that honors
ancestral wisdom

Maternal family
wellness initiatives
grounded in
intentional and
comprehensive care

Trust-based funding
dedicated to the
expansion of quality
community-led
services

Community led
maternal workforce
development

Policies passed
through Momnibus
Act leading to
maternal health
increase

Democratized birth
data used by
families and
overseen by
reporting board

Discussion and Reflections

What would you like to see this coalition work on in Greater Boston?

How do you want to contribute to achieving birth equity in Greater Boston?

Given our mission and vision, what wisdom and lessons would you share with us for this work?

Join and Get Involved

- **Become a Member**

- Nominate a Coalition Service Leader, or express your interest through our online portal

- **Serve on the Elder Council**

- **Sign up for our Mailing List**



Contact Information

Learn more about the Greater Boston Birth Equity Coalition:

<https://www.vitalvillage.org/projects/greater-boston-birth-equity-coalition>

Follow us:

Twitter - @Vital_Village

Instagram - @vitalvillage

Facebook - @vitalvillagenetwork

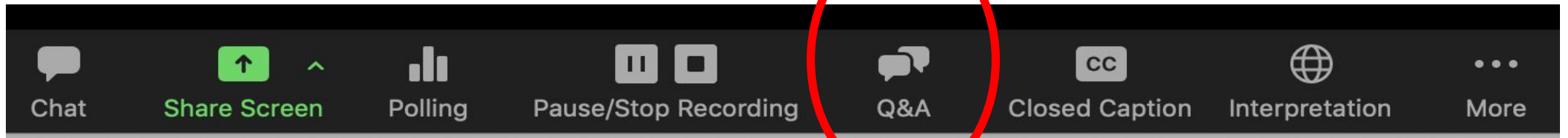
Email Leidy Quiceno at leidy.quiceno@bmc.org

Q & A

Question and
Answer

Q&A

- Submit your questions by clicking on the Q&A icon at the bottom of your screen



Stay Connected

Webinar Reflective Action Guide



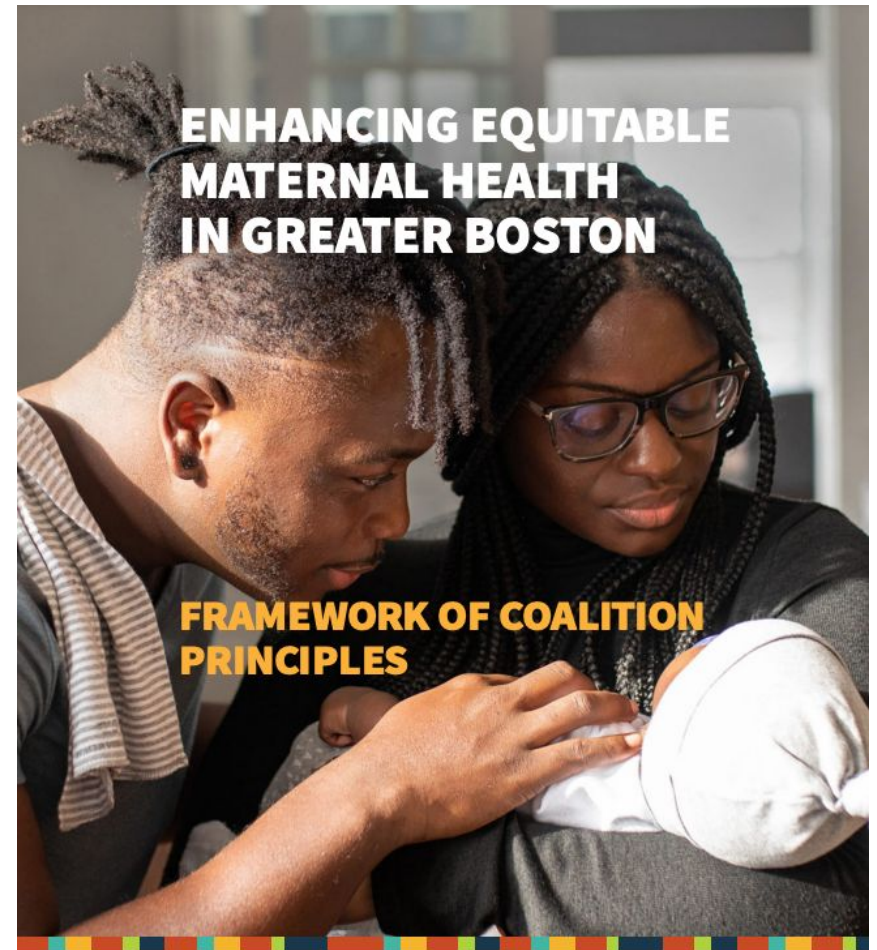
NOW 2024 Webinar Series

INSTRUCTIONS: Please download this document and take a few minutes to write some initial responses to the following questions

<p>What resonated with you most from today's webinar?</p>	
<p>Which lever of change are you feeling compelled to focus attention on in your work?</p>	
<p>How are you thinking about children, families, and communities in your work differently?</p>	
<p>What 2-3 action steps might you take over the next two months to better uplift and honor the dignity of children, families, and community?</p>	

Enhancing Equitable Maternal Health in Greater Boston

Framework of Coalition Principles



<https://www.vitalvillage.org/projects/greater-boston-birth-equity-coalition>

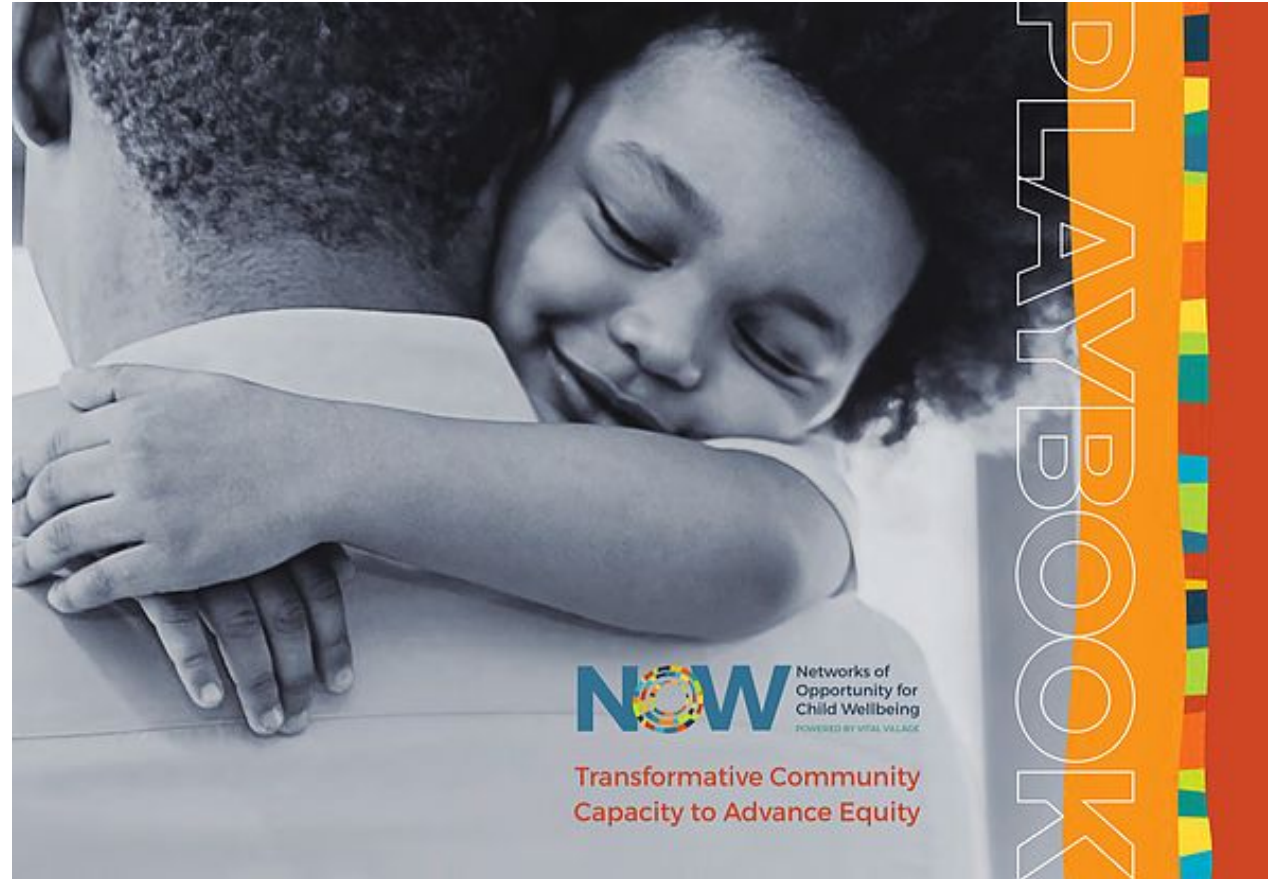
NOW Podcast:
In the Arena with NOW

Listen to the latest episodes from Season 2, and stay tuned this year for Season 3!



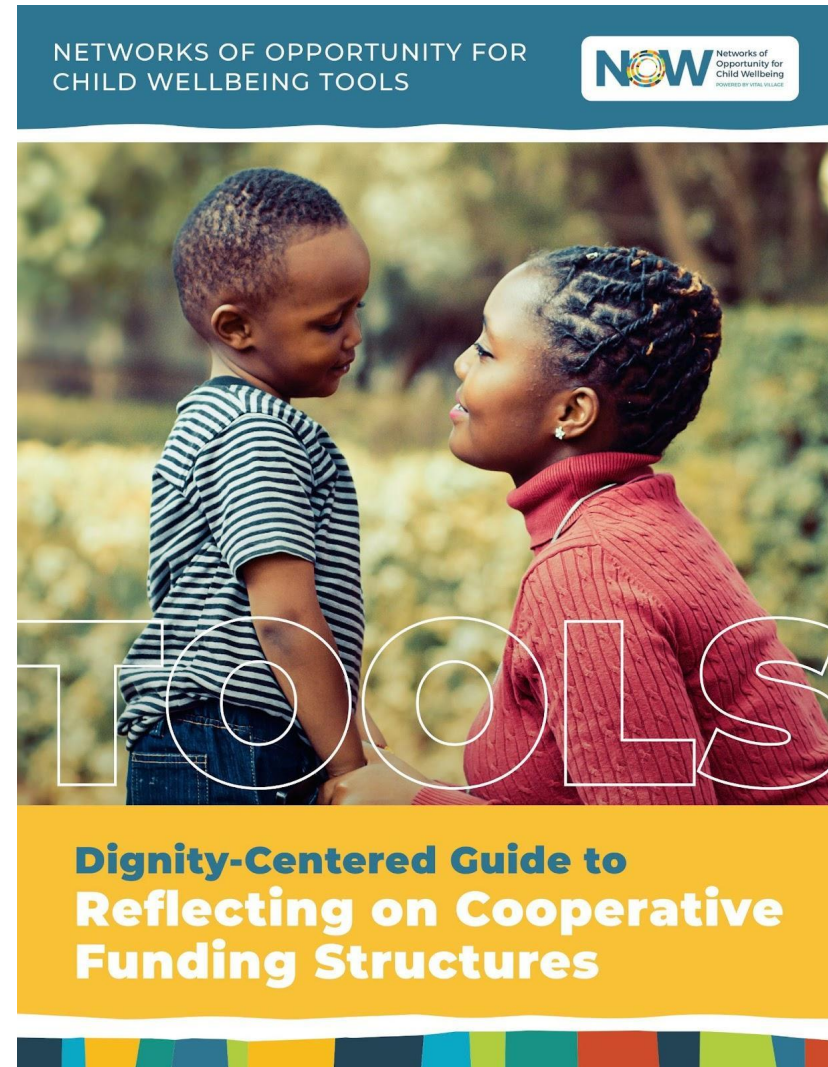
<https://www.networksofopportunity.org/podcast>

NOW Playbook: Transformative Community Capacity to Advance Equity



<https://www.networksofopportunity.org/nw-playbook>

A Dignity-Centered Guide to Reflecting on Cooperative Funding Structures



<https://www.networksofopportunity.org/coop-reflection-guide>



Thank You!

<https://www.networksofopportunity.org/>

projecthope.csc@gmail.com

Follow us:

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Instagram - @vitalvillage

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Vital Village Networks at Boston Medical Center
801 Albany Street, 2-E, Boston, MA 02119
617.414.3674
www.vitalvillage.org

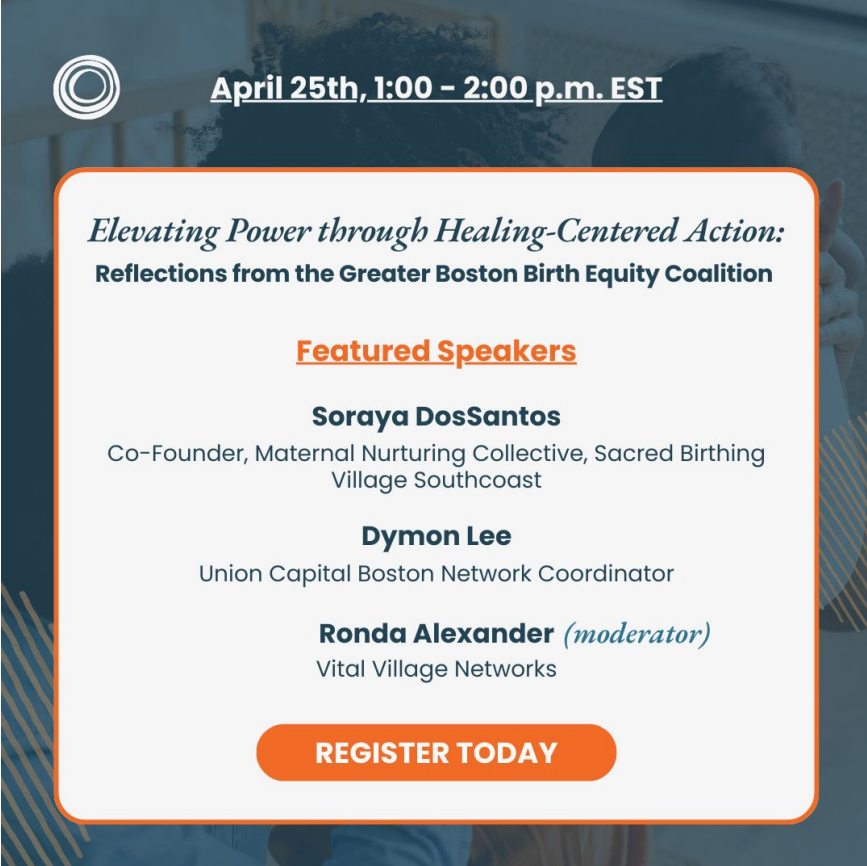
NOW WEBINAR: ***Elevating Power through Healing-Centered Action: Reflections from the Greater Boston Birth Equity Coalition***


Thursday, April 25, 2024 @ 1-2pm Eastern

How can we build community power to achieve equity and justice for birthing families? Join us for the second installment of the 2024 NOW webinar series with a dynamic conversation with members of the Greater Boston Birth Equity Coalition (GBBEC). Learn more about GBBEC members' journey in launching the coalition, healing-centered actions they are leading, and how you can get involved.

Register at: <https://cutt.ly/NOWwebinarApril2024>

*Part of the 2024 Vital Village NOW Series, Imperative of NOW:
Community Power and Healing-Centered Advocacy*

A graphic for a webinar registration. It features a dark blue background with a faint image of a person. At the top left is a circular logo with three concentric circles. To the right of the logo, the text "April 25th, 1:00 - 2:00 p.m. EST" is displayed. Below this, the title "Elevating Power through Healing-Centered Action: Reflections from the Greater Boston Birth Equity Coalition" is written in a serif font. Underneath the title, the heading "Featured Speakers" is followed by three speaker names and their titles: Soraya DosSantos (Co-Founder, Maternal Nurturing Collective, Sacred Birthing Village Southcoast), Dymon Lee (Union Capital Boston Network Coordinator), and Ronda Alexander (moderator) (Vital Village Networks). At the bottom right, there is an orange button with the text "REGISTER TODAY".

 **April 25th, 1:00 - 2:00 p.m. EST**

*Elevating Power through Healing-Centered Action:
Reflections from the Greater Boston Birth Equity Coalition*

Featured Speakers

Soraya DosSantos
Co-Founder, Maternal Nurturing Collective, Sacred Birthing Village Southcoast

Dymon Lee
Union Capital Boston Network Coordinator

Ronda Alexander (*moderator*)
Vital Village Networks

REGISTER TODAY