

FACTS ABOUT RISING PREGNANCY-RELATED DEATHS IN DELAWARE AND THE U.S.

The United States is one of very few developed countries where deaths related to pregnancy or childbirth are increasing. Black mothers are particularly at risk. In Delaware, maternal mortality rates are on the rise, as are risk factors for pregnancy-related complications such as obesity, pre-eclampsia, and high blood pressure. The good news is that over 50 percent of maternal deaths are preventable.



IN DELAWARE, almost **65% OF MATERNAL PREGNANCY-RELATED DEATHS** occur within 42 days postpartum.



IN DELAWARE, risk factors such as **OBESITY, PRE-ECLAMPSIA, AND HIGH BLOOD PRESSURE ARE ON THE RISE** in women of reproductive age.



IN DELAWARE, **SEVERE MATERNAL MORBIDITY ROSE** by **37%** between 2010 and 2014.



IN DELAWARE, 53% of pregnancy-related deaths are **PREVENTABLE**.



IN THE U.S., **BLACK WOMEN ARE 4X MORE LIKELY TO DIE** during pregnancy and childbirth than white women.



IN THE U.S., **BLACK WOMEN SUFFER** from life-threatening pregnancy complications **TWICE AS OFTEN AS WHITE WOMEN**.



IN DELAWARE, as in the U.S. overall, **SUBSTANCE ABUSE AND ADDICTION ARE ON THE RISE**, and impacting the health of mothers and their babies.



IN DELAWARE, about **40% OF WOMEN WHO DIED** from pregnancy-related causes **ALSO HAD A SERIOUS MENTAL HEALTH CONDITION**.



IN DELAWARE, **APPROXIMATELY 60% OF PREGNANCIES ARE UNPLANNED**, which significantly increases the risk of poor health outcomes for moms and babies.

