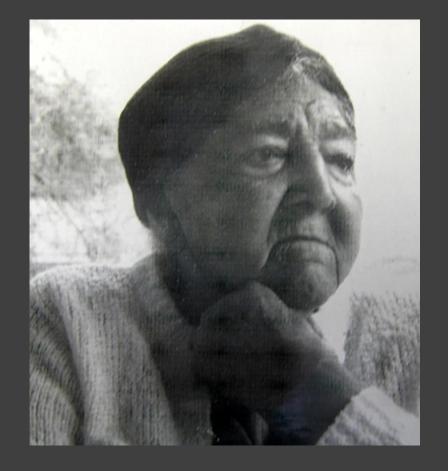


Why talk about it at FFF?

- Because due to historical and systemic racism Blacks have not received the same level of health care access or health insurance.
- As of 01/2022 the uninsured rates for Blacks in King County is 11%.
- Overall uninsured rate in King County is about 6%.







Black Mid-Wife's

- Black women being midwifes in the US started in the 17th century when they
 were brought to this Country as slaves.
- They brought in their deep knowledge of herbal medicine & home remedies.
- First recognized midwife was Margaret Charles Smith, in Alabama
- Picture courtesy of the National Museum of African American History & Culture.

Midwifes & Doulas

- Prior to 1930 most Black women gave birth at home. These women supported the mother emotionally through the pain of labor, prepared the tools, supplies, hygiene & give them medicine.
- Midwives can also be accompanied by Doulas! Doulas focused on the needs of the mother by offering mental, physical, and emotional support.
- Historically Doulas & Midwifes occupied a prominent position in the Black community serving as healers and spiritual leaders & maintaining extensive social networks.
- Open Arms Prenatal & Root Birth Services.





Equity Work in Seattle

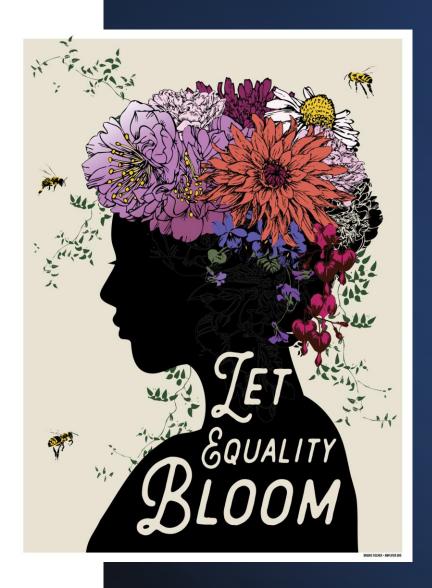
City of Seattle provided a grant to bring in agencies that service the Black/Indigenous Communities to help residents enroll into insurance, access health care services and help us identify the gaps in services. We're happy to announce that we have five new Navigator agencies that will be joining First Friday Forum whose enrollment is focused on equity:

Metropolitan Seattle Sickle Cell Task Force
Open Arms Perinatal Services
Specific Solutions & Opportunities for Urban Living (SSOU)
The Silent Task Force
Urban League of Metropolitan Seattle

Artwork courtesy of Amplifier.org

Dental Services for Undocumented Residents

- King County Council approved dental services for undocumented residents!!
- We are in the process of working with providers and the Medical Teams International on a model that will allow quicker and more efficient access for residents of King County.
- Who would be eligible: Clients who are undocumented & clients who are not eligible for Apple Health because they have not met the 5-year bar.
- Goal is to roll-out program by March.





City of Seattle Ticket Reduction Program

Seattle Municipal Court now offers hearings for people who are low-income and can't afford to pay their debt from overdue **Seattle** parking, traffic, or camera tickets.

Hearings will provide an opportunity for people with ticket debt to speak with a court magistrate about their situation and request to reduce their fines and remove their tickets from collections.

This new program is intended for anyone who is unable to pay their court tickets, including vehicle residents, people who receive federal or state assistance, and people who can't afford to register their vehicles.

No proof of income or benefits is required to participate.