

June 4, 2008

State Capitol
Sacramento, California 95814

**Re: Support Continued Funding for the California Maternal Quality Care Collaborative (CMQCC) and Related Safe Motherhood Projects.
Funding at Risk: \$675,000**

Dear Senator or Assemblymember,

I am writing to voice my strong support for continued funding of the California Maternal Quality Care Collaborative (CMQCC) and related projects in order to reduce maternal mortality and morbidities and improve the quality and safety of maternal healthcare in California.

It is critical that we continue to fund CMQCC and related safe motherhood projects in California at a time when

- Maternal mortality in California is rising to the highest in nearly 4 decades;
- Racial gap in maternal mortality has persisted, with African American mothers dying at a rate 3x higher than Caucasian mothers;
- Maternal death is only the tip of the iceberg; each year over 50,000 mothers suffer serious and sometimes life-threatening pregnancy complications;
- Many maternal deaths and complications are preventable;
- The prevention of one maternal death more than covers the cost of CMQCC and related projects.

I am requesting that the State Assembly and Senate maintain funding for CMQCC and related action projects, and join our efforts to help save mother's lives in California.

Sincerely,

[Insert signature and name/title/organization]