



## Childbirth Support is Available for African-American Families

### Pregnant members can receive childbirth education and support services from our Community Doula Program

Health Net\* has identified a significant gap in African-American Medi-Cal members' rates of postpartum care and cesarean sections (C-sections). Research shows that when African American women have doula support (a professional labor companion who is part of the maternity care team) their C-section rates decrease and postpartum rates increase.

#### Health Net Community Doula Program

We are implementing a Medi-Cal pilot project, the Health Net Community Doula Program, with the Association of Wholistic Maternal and Newborn Health (AWMNH). The program provides extended, intensive support to families throughout pregnancy, during labor and childbirth, and in the early months of parenting in communities that face high risks of negative birth and developmental outcomes. The program is a collaborative effort between the Health Net departments of Medical Affairs, Quality Improvement, Cultural and Linguistic Services, and Health Education.

The program will be offered to 150 pregnant African-American Health Net Medi-Cal members. The program will offer professional doula support services to:

- Pregnant Health Net African-American Medi-Cal members.
- Provide non-clinical support to women.
- Engage our members in childbirth education, at least three prenatal visits and three postpartum visits. This is a supplement to the provider visits that are standard for prenatal care.
- Help our members feel supported during pregnancy, childbirth and after delivery.

#### Register for free webinar

Providers may attend the following webinar session to learn more. Please register online via [www.eventbrite.com/e/health-net-community-doula-program-team-her-empowering-uptlifting-black-mothers-tickets-68404179743](http://www.eventbrite.com/e/health-net-community-doula-program-team-her-empowering-uptlifting-black-mothers-tickets-68404179743).

Course name	Dates	Time
<b>Health Net Community Doula Program Empowering &amp; Uplifting Black Mothers</b>	Friday September 6, 2019	12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. (Pacific time)

#### THIS UPDATE APPLIES TO CALIFORNIA PROVIDERS:

- Physicians
- Participating Physician Groups
- Hospitals
- Ancillary Providers

#### LINES OF BUSINESS:

- HMO/POS/HSP
- PPO
- EPO
- Medicare Advantage (HMO)
- Medi-Cal
  - Kern
  - Los Angeles
    - Molina
  - Riverside
  - Sacramento
  - San Bernardino
  - San Diego
  - San Joaquin
  - Stanislaus
  - Tulare

#### PROVIDER SERVICES

1-800-675-6110

[provider.healthnet.com](http://provider.healthnet.com)

#### PROVIDER COMMUNICATIONS

[provider.communications@healthnet.com](mailto:provider.communications@healthnet.com)

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## **Encourage your patients to enroll in the program through AWMNH**

AWMNH provides the Community Doula Program. AWMNH recruits members through their relationships with other community-based organizations that serve African-American Health Net Medi-Cal members, such as Black Infant Health and the Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) program.

To enroll your patient in the Health Net Community Doula Program or get more information, visit [www.motherbabysupport.net](http://www.motherbabysupport.net) or call (626) 388-2191, extension 2. Members may contact AWMNH by completing an inquiry form: <https://motherbabysupport.net/parent-support/registration-form-for-childbirth-support-services/>.

## **Additional information**

If you have questions regarding the information contained in this update, contact the Health Net Medi-Cal Provider Services Center within 60 days at 1-800-675-6110.