



Wes Moore, Governor · Aruna Miller, Lt. Governor · Laura Herrera Scott, M.D., M.P.H., Secretary

Maternal Mortality Review Team Fall 2023 Retreat

Unveiling Systemic Racism's Impact on Maternal Mortality: Nurturing Inclusive Dialogue and Action for the MMR Team

November 17, 2023, 1:00-6:00 pm

Robinson Nature Center

6692 Cedar Ln, Columbia, MD 21044

Minutes

Attendees

- *MMRT Members:* Tania Araya, Rob Atlas, Shobana Bharadwaj, Ann Burke, Rosemarie DiMauro Satyshur, Deb Doerfer, Jen Fahey, Cristina Haas, Jaimi Hall, Annapurna Kocherlakota, Lorraine Milio, Jeanne Murphy, Hartaj Powell, Ishrat Rafi, Steven Ralston, Maxine Reed-Vance, Lyneia Richardson, Ben Wormser
- *MMRT Abstractors:* Lorraine Goldstein, Amy Radion
- *MDH staff:* Ashka Mehta, Jess Raisanen, Cassidy Spence, Nina Martin
- *Facilitators:* Maya McDoom-Echebiri, Torrie Harris

Purpose

The purpose of this retreat is to discuss MMRT business, including how racism, discrimination, bias, and equity intersect with cases reviewed by the MMRT.

Notes

A motion to close the retreat on November 17, 2023 was made on November 6, 2023 by Ishrat Rafi, MD and seconded by Jaimi Hall, RN. Another motion to close the open meeting of tonight's meeting was also made by Dr. Rafi and seconded by Jaimi Hall. No one voted against closing the meeting. There were no guests from the public on the call. **The meeting was closed under the provisions below, all from General Provisions Art. § 3-305 (2,13):**

- **"To protect the privacy or reputation of individuals concerning a matter not related to public business"**
- **"To comply with a specific constitutional, statutory, or judicially imposed requirement that prevents public disclosures about a particular proceeding or matter"**

- I. Welcome and opening Icebreaker: Maya McDoom-Echebiri began the meeting at 1:00pm

- II. Attendance was taken and monitored by Nina Martin. A quorum of over 15 was met and noted.
- III. The group discussed values that they would like to uphold in the reviews, and brainstormed several that could be turned into group agreements. The facilitators reviewed current data on maternal mortality in Maryland, and the impact of racism on pregnancy-associated deaths. The attendees broke into small groups for discussion. At the end of the retreat, the facilitators encouraged each member to think of a group agreement they would like to propose by the next MMRT meeting. The MMR Program will continue to work with the MMRT to develop and finalize these group agreements.
- IV. The retreat ended at 6:00pm.