



Tom Barrett  
Mayor

Jeanette Kowalik, PhD, MPH, MCHES  
Commissioner of Health

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**For Immediate Release**  
April 1, 2019

**MEDIA ADVISORY**

**Mayor Barrett to Sign File Supporting Mothers in 53206**

**MILWAUKEE** – Tomorrow, April 2, 2019 Mayor Tom Barrett will be joined by City of Milwaukee Health Commissioner Dr. Jeanette Kowalik, Alderman Khalif Rainey, Alderwoman Milele A. Coggs, and Milwaukee County Supervisor Marina Dimitrijevic, along with other faith and health partners to sign a file that will provide doula programming to mothers in the 53206 zip code.

Community-based doulas provide culturally sensitive pregnancy and childbirth education, early linkage to health care and other services; labor coaching, breastfeeding promotion and counseling, and parenting education, while encouraging parental attachment. The peer-to-peer relationship and the continuity of care knit a fabric of support around the family, which has broad and deep impact on a variety of outcomes, especially for women of color.

The City of Milwaukee Health Department, with financial support of Milwaukee County, is developing the doula project to embrace the concept of “mothering our Milwaukee mothers,” in the interest of increasing their healthy pregnancy and birth outcomes.

**WHEN:** Tuesday, April 2, 2019  
12:30 p.m.

**WHO:** Mayor Tom Barrett  
Health Commissioner Jeannette Kowalik  
Alderman Khalif Rainey  
Alderwoman Milele A. Coggs  
County Supervisor Marina Dimitrijevic  
Dalvery Blackwell, African-American Breastfeeding Network  
Julia Means, Ascension Health  
Various Doulas

**WHERE:** Canaan Missionary Baptist Church,  
2964 N. 11<sup>th</sup> Street 53206

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