



July 27, 2022

Sherita Bullock
Executive Director
Healthy Baby Network
693 East Avenue.
Rochester, New York 14607

Dear Ms. Bullock,


It is Ubuntu Village Works LLC. pleasure to write this letter of support and we hope with you that your application to the Monroe County American Rescue Plan Funding Opportunity is selected for funding. The grant focus of creating infrastructure and services for vulnerable (medically, socially, historically, and environmentally) populations targeting Black birthing families and men with histories that include incarceration with a collaborative, person-centered, and culturally responsive approach is needed in our community at this time. Each of the three Bring Monroe Back Goals are addressed in your application and we support your efforts to respond to them by working to prevent Black Maternal Mortality and Morbidity and expanding the services in your Fatherhood Program to create innovations for Reentry, a multi-agency collaborative approach, and an intergenerational mentorship program with stipends.

Ubuntu Village Works LLC. is dedicated to creating culturally responsive healing spaces for people of the African diaspora and facilitating the growth of culturally responsive practice in organizations both inward and outward facing.

Ubuntu Village Works LLC has a long established partnership with Healthy Baby Network and has provided consultation and training in culturally responsive practice and mental health in communities of color. Through this partnership, we will be providing training and coaching for staff in healing circles, Historical Trauma, and a culturally responsive youth violence prevention model to equip father with tools to help their sons.,

As a HBN community partner Ubuntu Village Works LLC. believes in their ability to plan, strategize, and execute this work centered on the parents engaged in the programs. HBN brings a unique bench-strength and perspective to their approach that has served the parents they work with and our community well over the 26 years the organization has operated. We stand ready to collaborate with them, in support of their work, and believe they should be funded.

Sincerely


Melanie Funchess
CEO/ Principal
Ubuntu Village Works LLC.