



OUR MOTHERS AND US

2021 ANNUAL REPORT

ADVOCACY. COMMUNITY. FELLOWSHIP. INFORMATION.
PROMOTING HEALTHY PREGNANCIES, BIRTHS, AND PARENTING EXPERIENCES FOR BLACK &
BROWN MOTHERS AND FAMILIES IN ARIZONA.



BIANCA COMER
FOUNDER, PRESIDENT & CEO

DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT.

As we reflect on our first year operating as a nonprofit organization, we'd like to acknowledge the patrons who have made this possible. Amidst the countless lessons learned this year, one certainty remains: birthing families in our community are the core of our work. As an homage to their contribution, we embedded their photos throughout this report. We dedicate this review to mothers, fathers, and fellow birth equity trailblazers and organizations in Arizona. Their courage, participation, and experiences truly inspire us. Their receptivity and involvement have ushered us to this very point.

MISSION.

The mission of Our Mothers and Us (OMUS) is to increase awareness and facilitate transparent discussion surrounding maternal health within communities of color; particularly, Black communities across Maricopa County, Arizona. OMUS supports women and families by facilitating health promotion, education, and outreach activities to promote healthy pregnancies and overall well-being— before, during, after pregnancy, and the transition period into parenthood.

VISION.

We envision a world where Black mothers have healthy pregnancies, births, babies, and families.

OUR YEAR.

WORKSHOPS, CLASSES, & PROJECTS

With the restrictions that the COVID-19 pandemic continues to bring, we persist in our effort to engage with community members. We held virtual workshops and classes, and although consistent attendance was a challenge, our organization has since implemented strategies to improve our reach. Two major projects, the OMUS +OPNRM Video Collaboration Project and the Fatherhood Project, took place as well. Through these ventures, we captured the realities of Arizona's Black and Brown parents during the pregnancy, birth, and postpartum period. The insights gained from this research have provided a roadmap for our programming. It has also provided a platform for local families to share their experiences. We intend to continue sharing them with the masses.



CHRIS, 27 | FATHER OF 2.



CANDACE, 31 | MOTHER OF 1.

COMMUNITY RELATIONSHIPS & SUPPORT

We are grateful for the working relationships we have developed throughout the year. The diversity of these connections has enabled us to collaborate in transformative ways. Our work has resonated with individuals and supporters from:

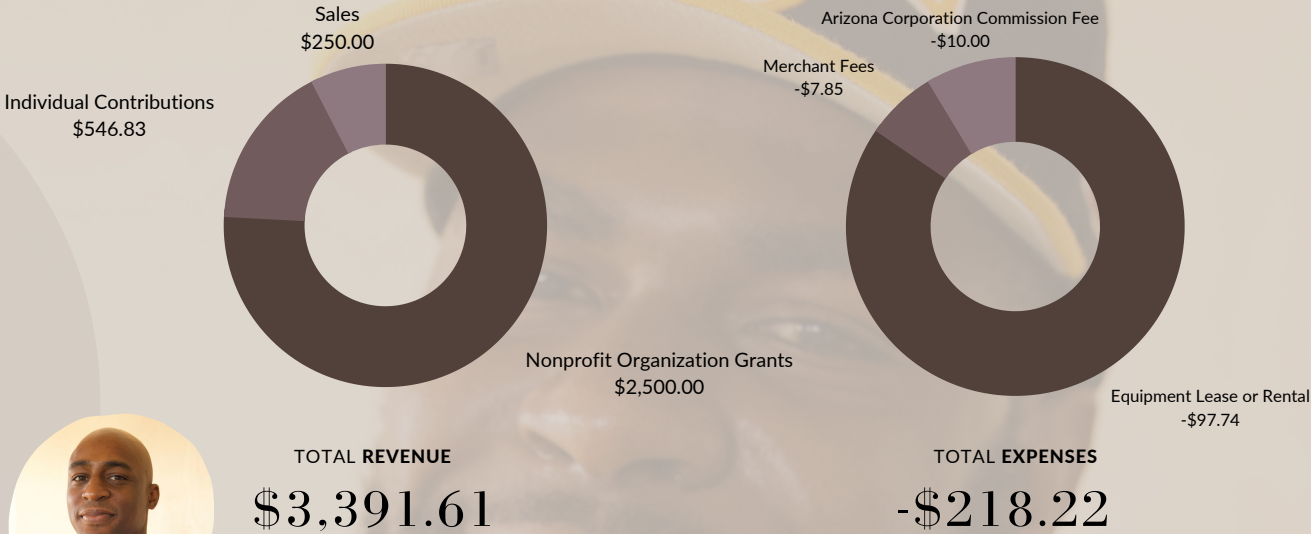
- 4th Trimester Arizona
- Arizona Birth Network
- Cihuapactli Collective
- Moms, Dads, and Babies (MODABA)
- Project Access
- South Phoenix Healthy Start
- Terros Health
- Women's Health Innovations of Arizona (WHI)

9	8	5	1
INTERVIEWS CONDUCTED	ORGANIZATIONAL RELATIONSHIPS MADE	WORKSHOPS HELD	GRANT INVITE/AWARDED

CONFERENCE FEATURES + MEDIA PRESS.



FINANCIAL REPORT.



JUSTIN, 30 | EXPECTANT FATHER.

HIGHLIGHTS.

- ✓ BECAME A FEDERALLY-DESIGNATED TAX-EXEMPT ORGANIZATION.
- ✓ CONDUCTED AN ORGANIZATIONAL REBRAND.
- ✓ CONNECTED WITH OTHER LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS, BIRTH WORKERS, AND ADVOCATES.
- ✓ BUILT RELATIONSHIPS AND DEVELOPED RAPPORT WITH COMMUNITY MEMBERS.

“WHEN I SEE ORGANIZATIONS LIKE YOURSELVES, I’M LIKE, ‘THESE ARE THE THINGS THAT PEOPLE NEED...’”

LOOKING AHEAD.

We are grateful for the support of our community. As we embark on a new journey for 2022, we look forward to fresh opportunities. By improving our programs and diversifying our collaborative partners, our mission to increase awareness and facilitate discussion surrounding maternal health will continue in the new year.



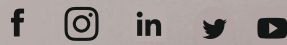
AMANDA, 29 | MOTHER OF 2.



OUR MOTHERS AND US

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IMAGES TAKEN BY IDARA EKPOH
COVER AND END PHOTO FROM PEXELS.COM.