



February 19, 2026

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"We must always be a strong presence, an unrelenting force working for equality and justice until the freedom gates are fully open."

- Dorothy Height

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Welcome to the February 2026 edition of the [NOW Innovation Forum Newsletter](#). We are excited to share opportunities and resources with you this month. In this edition you're invited to:

- Join us for the Vital Village Network Connection Meeting on February 23
- Sign up for the free Data Storytelling Workshop Series, launching on February 26
- Attend the GROW.V.BABY Research Roundtable Seminar on March 17
- Register for the first installment of the 2026 NOW Webinar Series on March 19, *The Practice of Belonging*
- Explore the featured resource, *Infertility Fact Sheet - Black Maternal Health Statistical Insights*
- Support Our Campaign, *Give Where Leaders Grow*

Thank you for your commitment to children, families, and communities and for joining us as we journey through another year together.

Bienvenido a la edición de febrero de 2026 del [Boletín Informativo del NOW Innovation Forum](#) (Foro de Innovación NOW). Nos complace compartir oportunidades y recursos con usted este mes. En esta edición está invitado a:

- Unirse a nosotros para la Reunión de Conexión de la Red de Vital Village el 23 de febrero
- Inscribirse para la Serie de Talleres Gratuitos de Narración de Datos, lanzamiento el 26 de febrero
- Asistir al Seminario de la Mesa Redonda de Investigación GORW.V.BABY el 17 de marzo
- Inscribirse para la primera entrega de la Serie de Talleres Virtuales del 2026 de NOW el 19 de marzo, *La Práctica de Pertenecer*
- Explorar el recurso destacado, *Hoja Informativa sobre la Infertilidad - Información Estadística sobre la Salud Materna Negra*
- Apoyar Nuestra Campaña, *Donar Donde Crecen los Líderes*

Gracias por su compromiso a los niños, las familias, y las comunidades, y por acompañarnos en nuestro recorrido ante otro año juntos.

Network Highlights

February Network Connection Meeting

Join us for Vital Village's February Network Connection Meeting on **Monday, February 23rd**, at 5:30 in-person or 6:00 pm ET on Zoom, as we come together to deepen our shared understanding of how advocacy, policy, civic engagement, and community organizing shape the conditions in which families and communities thrive.

This evening will be co-hosted by **Latoya Gayle**, Community Champion and **Colleen Roan**, Early Childhood Coalition Coordinator and long-time NOW network leader. Whether you are new to advocacy or deeply experienced, this meeting offers space to connect, learn, and envision ways we can use our collective power to advance more equitable outcomes for all.

Language justice and in-person childcare services will be available. We request that you register at least one week in advance if you require interpretation services or childcare to participate fully.

[Register Here](#)

2026 Data Storytelling Workshop Series





Who's telling the story of your community?

Join the **2026 virtual Data Storytelling Workshop Series** and build your capacity to create and share stories that support social change using data tools.

The Workshop will focus on five themes for collecting and sharing information that highlight community assets and leverages community strengths:

1. Community-Driven Data
2. Data Collection and Storage
3. Mapping and GIS
4. Program Design and Evaluation
5. Sharing Your Story
6. Ethical Use of AI

Workshop dates: Thursdays, 5:30 - 6:30 p.m. ET starting on **February 26, 2026**

[Register Here](#)

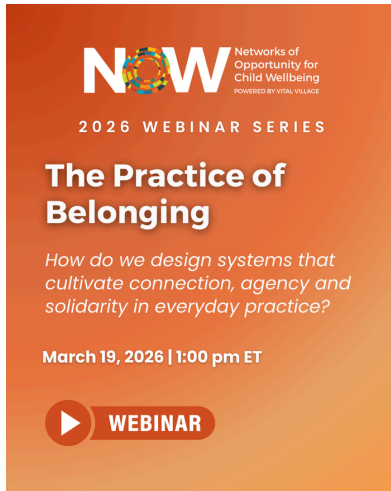
CORW.V.BABY Research Roundtable Seminar: Effective State Policies to Strengthen the Early Years

[Cynthia Osborne](#), founder and executive director of the national **Prenatal-to-3 Policy Impact Center**, will explore how state-level prenatal-to-three policies translate evidence into measurable benefits for families. The conversation will cover key components of the Prenatal-to-Three Policy Impact Center's Roadmap, including high-impact policy levers, policy impact calculators and benefit-cost analyses for policymakers, and resources available through the Clearinghouse. The talk will also highlight emerging policy areas—paid leave, child care, enhanced Medicaid reimbursement, and extended postpartum care—with attention to how evaluated programs and strategies can scale across states.



[Register Here](#)

2026 NOW Webinar Series: The Practice of Belonging



NOW Networks of Opportunity for Child Wellbeing
POWERED BY VITAL VILLAGE

2026 WEBINAR SERIES

The Practice of Belonging

How do we design systems that cultivate connection, agency and solidarity in everyday practice?

March 19, 2026 | 1:00 pm ET

 **WEBINAR**

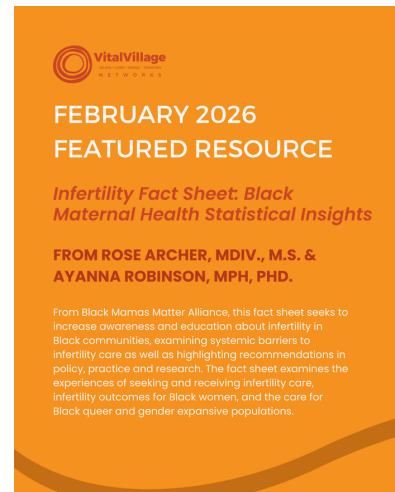
We invite you to save the date for the launch of this year's 2026 NOW Webinar Series, **The Practice of Belonging, on March 19 at 1pm ET!** During the first installment of the series, we will explore the question, *how do we design systems that cultivate connection, agency and solidarity in everyday practice?* Through real world examples, we will deepen our understanding on how centering humanity, relationship building, and shared responsibility shape communities where people experience dignity, voice and collective care.

[Register Here](#)

Featured Resource: Infertility Fact Sheet - Black Maternal Health Statistical Insights

From **Black Mamas Matter Alliance**, this fact sheet seeks to increase awareness and education about infertility in Black communities, examining systemic barriers to infertility care as well as highlighting recommendations in policy, practice and research. The fact sheet examines the experience of seeking and receiving infertility care, infertility outcomes for Black women, and the care for Black queer and gender expansive populations.

[Access the Resource Here](#)



 **VitalVillage**
NETWORKS

FEBRUARY 2026
FEATURED RESOURCE

Infertility Fact Sheet: Black Maternal Health Statistical Insights

FROM ROSE ARCHER, MDIV., M.S. &
AYANNA ROBINSON, MPH, PHD.

From Black Mamas Matter Alliance, this fact sheet seeks to increase awareness and education about infertility in Black communities, examining systemic barriers to infertility care as well as highlighting recommendations in policy, practice and research. The fact sheet examines the experiences of seeking and receiving infertility care, infertility outcomes for Black women, and the care for Black queer and gender expansive populations.

Support Our Campaign: *Give Where Leaders Grow*





Give Where Leaders Grow

Nurturing Leadership *from* the community, *for* the community.

At Vital Village Networks, we recognize that it takes a village to nurture leaders **from the community, for the community**. Together, we have been dedicated to investing in networks and cross-sector partnerships that center the leadership of caregivers and families, and create collaborative tools, processes, and conditions that promote child, family, and community well-being.

We need you, our village, to support our work and help create lasting change together. Please consider making a gift today to support Vital Village Networks and invest in the wisdom, innovative strategies, and power of grassroots leadership that is **#VillageMade**.

Give Today

The NOW community hopes to stay connected and lift up the work and stories of all of our members. Follow and tag us so that we can virtually highlight the community-led transformation you are leading

#VillageInMind



www.networksofopportunity.org 

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