Maternal Mortality Reviews (MMR) and the Alliance for Innovation on Maternal Health (AIM)

**Background:**
- The US has the highest and only rising maternal mortality rate of any developed country – it has increased by approximately 26.6% from 2000 to 2014.
- In 2011, the maternal mortality rate for non-Hispanic white women was 12.5 deaths per 100,000 live births compared with 42.8 deaths for non-Hispanic black women; **3.4 times as high**.
- Over half of the maternal deaths in the US could have been prevented.

**Alliance for Innovation on Maternal Health (AIM) – Finding Solutions:**
- AIM is a national alliance of clinicians, public health, hospital administration, patient safety organizations, and advocates joining to:
  - Reduce maternal mortality by 1,000 deaths by 2018
  - Reduce severe maternal morbidity by 100,000 instances by 2018
- AIM offers assistance to existing teams in states and hospital networks to assess current maternity culture of safety and employ multiple resources to improve outcomes.
- AIM uses condition-specific maternal safety “bundles” to help clinicians, hospitals, and public health officials improve the quality of maternity care.
  - “Bundles” are evidence based action steps endorsed by the major maternal provider organizations to guide maternity care.
  - Current bundles include:
    - Obstetric Hemorrhage
    - Hypertension in pregnancy
    - Prevention of venous thromboembolism
    - Supporting intended vaginal births (reduction of low-risk primary Cesarean births)
    - Reduction of peripartum racial disparities
    - Improvement in postpartum care
    - Obstetric care of the opioid dependent woman (in development)

**Maternal Mortality Review Committees – A Key Piece of The AIM Puzzle:**
- In order for a state to join the AIM program, it must have or be in the process of developing a maternal mortality review (MMR) committee.
- MMRs provide a basis for state leadership to identify many of the issues influencing maternal mortality for that particular state.
- MMRs also function as an initial coordinating body for representatives from state public health, health care providers, hospital associations and hospital systems to work together toward the goals of improving maternal health care.
- AIM then becomes the implementation arm of the MMRs, engaging an even wider team of professionals and advocates and using outcome data to drive care improvement.