

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**New Events Announced for New Chapters in Community Health Series**

**MADISON, WI** -- [Madison Public Library](https://www.madisonpubliclibrary.org/), [The Wisconsin Book Festival](https://www.wisconsinbookfestival.org/) and the [All of Us Research Program](https://allofus.wisc.edu/) at UW-Madison, are offering two free, virtual events focused on women’s physical and mental health as it relates to pregnancy and motherhood. The events will cover similar content, but an English-speaking panel will lead the discussion at the first event, and a Spanish-speaking panel will do so the following day.

* **Pregnancy, Birth and Beyond: A Conversation with Community Women about Motherhood**

May 12, 6-7 p.m. | Facebook Live

Featured panelists include:

* + **Felica Turner-Walton**, CEO and Founder of Healing Our Hearts Foundation
  + **Margarita Rubio**, Local Latina Community Mother, and Advocate
  + **Nancy Saiz**, Local Latina Community Mother, and Advocate
  + **Tamara N. Thompson**, Co-Director of Maroon Calabash, Doula that specializes in birth-work with a Reproductive Justice lens
  + **Shonita Roach**, Founder of Shades of You, Shades of Me, a Maternal Mental Health agency
* **El embarazo, Nacimiento, y más allá: Una Conversación con Madres de nuestra comunidad**

May 13, 6-7 p.m. | Facebook Live

Featured panelists include:

* **Maricela Martinez Munguia**, Co-president of Roots4Change Co-op, Doula and Community Health Worker
* **Aída Inuca Pija**, Doula and Community Health Worker at Roots4Change Co-op
* **Tania Hernandez**, Bilingual Financial Administrative Assistant at UNIDOS Against Domestic Violence
* **Araceli Esparza**, Social Justice Entrepreneur, Owner of MWM Productions and Latinx Poeta

Local latina business-owner and activist, Araceli Esparza of MWM Productions will serve as moderator for both events, which will take place via Facebook Live. Local women of color who work in promoting women's rights for culturally relevant birth care will engage in a frank discussion of pregnancy, birth, and motherhood. Free paperback copies of *Like a Mother* by Angela Garbes will be mailed to attendees after the event, and one door prize of small items related to health and wellness will be given away at each event.

“I love being part of events like this because they honor all of the parts of me that I want to talk about but often don't find the forum to do so,” said Esparza. “Let's talk about motherhood through a feminist lens, through decolonization, and as a community of women of color. Culture is Unity!”

These events are meant to continue the discussion from the [Wisconsin Book Festival](https://www.wisconsinbookfestival.org/) author event [featuring Angela Garbes](https://www.crowdcast.io/e/wbf-like-a-mother?utm_source=profile&utm_medium=profile_web&utm_campaign=profile), and will take place as part of the [New Chapters in Community Health event series](http://madpl.org/new-chapters).

Madison Public Library’s Community Engagement team will offer additional virtual programming, pulling in health experts, business owners and other key community leaders to expand on other health-related topics in May, June and July.

For more information about New Chapters in Community Health events, please visit: [madpl.org/new-chapters](http://madpl.org/new-chapters)

**About Madison Public Library**

Madison Public Library’s tradition of promoting education, literacy and community involvement has enriched the City of Madison for more than 140 years. Visit the library online at www.madisonpubliclibrary.org, @madisonpubliclibrary on Facebook, @madisonlibrary on Twitter, or @madisonpubliclibrary on Instagram.

**About the Wisconsin Book Festival**

The Wisconsin Book Festival presents hundreds of national and local authors throughout the year, through its multi-day literary festival each fall and year-round event series. Founded by the Wisconsin Humanities Council in 2002, responsibility for the festival was assumed by Madison Public Library and its Foundation in 2013. Follow the festival on the web at wisconsinbookfestival.org, Wisconsin Book Festival on Facebook, @wibookfestival on Twitter, or @wibookfest on Instagram.

**About the *All of Us* Research Program at UW-Madison**

The University of Wisconsin-Madison is actively engaged in recruiting and enrolling participants in the *All of Us* Research Program, an historic health research effort. The mission of the *All of Us* program is to accelerate health research and medical breakthroughs, enabling individualized prevention, treatment and care for all of us. The program seeks one million or more people across the United States to build the most diverse biomedical data resource of its kind, to help researchers gain better insights into the biological, environmental and behavioral factors that influence health. For more information or to participate, please visit AllofUs.wisc.edu, AllofusBadgers on Facebook, or @allofusbadgers on Twitter and Instagram.