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Dear Colleagues,

We are pleased to introduce a collaboration between the Tennessee Initiative for Perinatal Quality Care (TIPQC), Ariadne Labs, and birthing hospitals in Tennessee to improve childbirth outcomes and experiences and reduce racial inequities. We will do so by recruiting a cohort of leading hospitals across the state to implement [*TeamBirth*](https://www.youtube.com/watch?app=desktop&v=EoVrSaGk7gc) - a care process innovation that centers shared decision making and transparency for women and birthing people, and promotes effective communication and teamwork across all care team members. TeamBirth was tested in a federally registered clinical trial and implemented by tens of thousands of clinicians, serving hundreds of thousands of families at community hospitals on both coasts and in the heartland of the United States. We demonstrated TeamBirth improves teamwork and communication during childbirth for both providers and patients alike. Today, there are over 130 hospitals implementing TeamBirth, impacting approximately 500,000 families, and that number continues to grow. TeamBirth is well positioned to become the standard of care for birthing hospitals in the United States with Tennessee as a state leader and national example. The benefits of implementing TeamBirth include:

* Patient Satisfaction: 79% of patients who received TeamBirth in our clinical trial believed their preferences made a difference in the care they received; 87% had the role they wanted in decisions about their labor; and 94% reported their clinical team talked with them in a way they could understand.
* Clinician Satisfaction: 93% of nurses, midwives and obstetricians who participated in our clinical trial believeTeamBirth improves care; and 90% would recommend TeamBirth to other units.
* Reduced Health Inequities: TeamBirth demonstrates a statistically significant positive impact on equity in experience through autonomy and shared decision making across race/ethnicity groups (using Mother’s Autonomy in Decision Making -MADM- scale). *Soon to be published.*

Hospitals that agree to participate in this project are expected to:

* Sign this commitment letter with TIPQC
* Identify a hospital-based implementation leadership to guide the project at their site
* Participate in implementation project planning with TIPQC, Ariadne Labs and fellow hospital sites
* Complete Ariadne Labs’ brief, web-based *Atlas* survey to assess hospital context, readiness, and implementation progress
* Participate in monthly learning sessions (60-90 mins) for implementation support and direct training on TeamBirth with TIPQC and Ariadne Labs
* Organize a TeamBirth launch event
* Administer and input data from patient surveys to evaluate the impact of TeamBirth on disparities in experience and outcomes
* Participate in coaching calls with TIPQC and Ariadne Labs to discuss implementation progress, guidance on adapting tools and strategies to the site’s local context, and site data

This project aims to rigorously study the impact of the TeamBirth model of care on safety and dignity in childbirth to create the evidence necessary for broad scale adoption across the state and region. Hospitals will have continued access to Ariadne’s TeamBirth tools, Whiteboard, and decision aids are provided under the terms of their Creative Commons licenses. Hospitals may access and use these works as authorized under these licenses during this project and thereafter. By signing below, you are committing to support this TeamBirth project and maintain contact with the Principal Investigator regarding issues or concerns. Please sign and return to Brenda Barker, Executive Director of the Tennessee Initiative for Perinatal Quality Care.

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**Hospital Name**

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**1. Executive Leader Signature**  Date

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Written Name and Title Contact Information (phone/email address)

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**2. Provider Implementation Leader Signature** Date

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Written Name and Title Contact Information (phone/email address)

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**3. Nurse Implementation Leader Signature** Date

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Written Name and Title Contact Information (phone/email address



**Watch this 5-minute “Why TeamBirth video for more information!**