## 2022 ANNUAL IMPACT REPORT



### A Letter From our Founder

2022 was a year of growth for Mom Congress, thanks to an initial capacity grant from the W.K. Kellogg Foundation. This included onboarding our first Program Director, Ebony Wrenn-who you will learn more about in the report.

It was also the year that we introduced the Moms' Agenda, a set of bills that our members and advocates pushed for passage at the Convention in September. Our hill day even got a shout-out in Politico's daily email, along with a mention of the CDC's latest maternal mortality report released at the Mom Congress Congressional briefing.



In 2023, we are turning our direction toward increasing funding/capacity and building membership. Our goals, as you will see in the report, are to become the AARP of motherhood -increasing membership to 2000 in 2 years and 20,000 in 10 years.

In the meantime, our tiny but mighty team will continue to knock it out of the park and inspire mothers to roll up their sleeves to improve pregnancy, early parenting, and motherhood.

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Sunchard

**Joy Burkhard, MBA** Founder, Mom Congress

# *Mom* ★ CONGRESS<sup>™</sup>

2020 Mom has been bringing mothers and advocates to DC to work on the passage of maternal mental health legislation since 2014. In 2019, after bringing together other small nonprofits advocating for federal policy change in maternal health and paid leave, the event was re-branded as Mom Congress.

This year with the generous support of the W.K. Kellogg Foundation, we hired our first director, Ebony Wrenn.

#### THE MOVEMENT

Mom Congress is both a moment in DC, and a movement with the addition of a membership option, recurring eNews letters, member town halls, and online communities for each of the four focus areas, or caucuses:

- Paid Maternity/Paternity Leave & Child Care
- Preventing Maternal Death/Improving Birth
- Maternal Health Equity
- Maternal Mental Health

#### THE MEMBERSHIP

We ended this year with 273 Members.



**Ebony Wrenn, M.Ed.** Newly Appointed Director





We set the following **membership growth goals**:

- 2,000 in 2 years (2024)
- 20,000 in 10 years (2032)

"I have always felt passionately about advocating for the struggles unique to modern motherhood and until Mom Congress I did not know how to get started. Mom Congress attaches directions and purpose to my values."

- Mom Congress Member

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#### THE MOMS' AGENDA 2022

Mom Congress supports many pieces of legislation throughout the year. The following supported bills were referred to as the 2022 "Moms' Agenda" and advocated for during the Mom Congress Convention Advocacy Day that was held on September 20th, 2022.

#### **Rural Moms Act**

#### H.R. 769 / S. 1491

Rural Maternal and Obstetric Modernization of Services Act or the Rural MOMS Act. This bill



expands initiatives to address maternal health in rural areas. The bill provides funding through the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA).

#### Midwives for Maximizing Optimal Maternity Services (Midwives for MOMS) Act

#### H.R. 3352 / S. 1697

Addresses maternity care provider shortages in rural and underserved areas throughout the country with the goal of improving maternal and child health outcomes, especially among underrepresented Black, Indigenous, Latinx, and Asian women, and to scale up and diversify the midwifery workforce.

#### The Pregnant Workers Fairness Act

#### H.R. 1065 / S. 1486

This bill prohibits employment practices that discriminate against making reasonable accommodations for qualified employees affected by a pregnancy, childbirth, or related medical conditions.

#### **SHINE for Autumn Act**

#### H.R. 5487 / S. 3972

This bill authorizes grants and establishes other programs to improve data collection on stillbirths, develop educational awareness materials about stillbirths and make them publicly available, provide training in perinatal autopsy pathology and support research on stillbirths and fetal autopsies.

#### **Restoring Hope for Mental Health and Wellbeing**

#### <u>H.R. 7666</u>

This comprehensive mental health bill, incorporated the provisions of two maternal mental health bills, including the TRIUMPH for New Mom's Act ("TRIUMPH") and Into the Light for Maternal Mental Health.

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#### THE "MOMENTS"

#### **Mom Congress Convention**



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In 2022, the Mom Congress Convention brought together mothers, partner organizations, and other stakeholders in DC to advocate for legislation to improve motherhood.

Nearly 200 advocates gathered together for the three days representing 29 states.



Speakers included Sandra Ford, Special Assistant to the President, First Lady of NJ Tammy Murphy, Reshma Sujani of the Marshall Plan for Moms, TN State Senator, London Lamar, Kimberly Seals Allers of BirthRight, Shana Cox of the CDC, and more.



#### Mom Congress Convention cont.



#### **Event Highlights**

- ♦ 33 Speakers
- 1 Congressional Briefing
- 22 meetings with Congressional Offices
- 7 media articles, including a mention in Politico Pulse

#### **Attendee Satisfaction**

◆ 95% Satisfaction Rate

"I want to be more active in advocating for change. I plan to continue the relationship with the [Congressional] staffers I met with and also reach out to state and local representatives."

- Mom Congress Attendee

"I believe I better know how to advocate now. Thank you for this. I'm continuing to seek opportunities to advocate."

- Mom Congress Attendee

[After attending the Mom Congress Convention] "I am fully committed to doing more in my local community and to work to build an ongoing relationship with my legislators"

- Mom Congress Attendee

"This shed a light on some of the loopholes in policy that we are not always aware exists with the implementation process of bills. I definitely plan to be more involved so I may advocate in this space to ensure ALL reap the benefits of each piece of legislation."

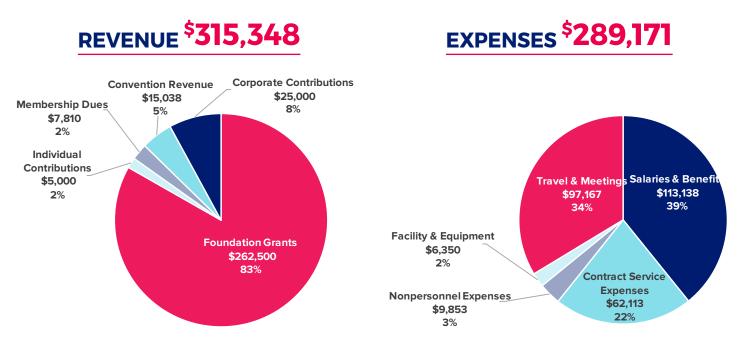
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- Mom Congress Attendee

"I have already written a blog and plan to write op-eds soon."

- Mom Congress Attendee

#### **FINANCIALS**



#### **The Next Chapter**

As we embark on another pivotal year for maternal health and maternal support, we will double down on:

- Developing a 2023 Moms' Agenda that centers not only our four focus areas but bipartisanship, as our issues are issues that both Democrats and Republicans can and should get behind.
- Creating a member story bank to search on keywords and allow us to pull the right member at the right time to support her engagement.
- Supporting the bipartisan Congressional task force on paid leave, engaging with these policymakers lifting up the stories of member mothers.
- Recruiting members from all 50 states that reflect the U.S. racial/ethnic and other demographics.
- Becoming a nonprofit organization and implementing our bylaws, including creating a Mom Congress House and Senate leadership structure.

Please join us as a donor, member, or partner as we build the capacity of mothers to pass policy that matters to motherhood.

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With excitement,

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Joy Burkhard, MBA Founder, Mom Congress

Elon Orem

Ebony Wrenn, M.Ed. Program Director, Mom Congress