Mom ★ CONGRESS™

SPEAKERS • MONDAY, MAY 6, 2019



Laura Arndt

Laura is the CEO of Matriarc, a wellness community and app for moms. Laura is a Certified Strength and Conditioning Specialist and Certified Personal Trainer with the National Strength and Conditioning Association, Certified Pilates Instructor and has run her fitness company in D.C. for over 10 years. Through her training and experience working with hundreds of new moms, she discovered her passion for educating and helping postpartum women with their entry back into physical fitness safely after birth.



Bekah Bischoff

Bekah Bischoff is a career educator, mother of two, and strong advocate for making changes in maternal health. Bekah currently devotes much of her time to sharing her story and is passionate about helping moms identify and heal from their traumatic birth experience. She was involved with the USAToday's "Deadly Deliveries" series and has been featured in several news articles and social media presentations. She serves on the board of directors for ImprovingBirth as their Legislative Advocacy Coordinator and her family is the Mission Family for the Preeclampsia Foundation's Promise Walk in Cincinnati this summer. She calls Louisville, KY home where she lives with her husband Joseph, and two children, Ady, age 8, and Henry, age 6.



Joy Burkhard, MBA

Joy is the founder and executive director of 2020 Mom.

In this role, Joy has used her knowledge of the complex health care system to advance change in maternal mental health. She has over 20 years of experience working in several roles with the health insurer, Cigna, including working in customer service, quality improvement and regulatory affairs. She has a passion for scaling change and putting the customer first. Joy founded 2020 Mom in 2011 after her personal, volunteer and professional worlds collided.

She is a member of the American College of Obstetrics and Gynecology expert work group on Maternal Mental Health and the California Maternal Quality Care Collaborative.

Joy has been recognized for her leadership and vision with several awards receiving the "Emerging Leader" award in women's health from the Federal Health and Human Services Agency, Office of Women's Health (2016), receiving the American Mother, Mother of Achievement Award (2019),

receiving a Silver Women in Business Stevie Award for Non-Profit/Government Leadership; Cigna's Volunteer of the Year award (2016), and the Junior League of Los Angeles' Founders Cup (2014) and their Community Achievement Award (2016).



with their little ones.

Christine Michel Carter

Consultant For Brands And Agencies | Speaker On Millennial Moms And Black Consumers | Forbes and TIME Writer | Creator of Mompreneur and Me As a writer, speaker and consultant Christine Michel Carter works with companies to ensure they're at the forefront of the minds of Black female consumers. She has been featured in, and guest contributed to several global digital publications, including Forbes, TIME, The New York Times, Harper's BAZAAR, Parents, Health, Ebony, Women's Health and has been called "the exec inspiring millennial moms," a "branding mastermind" and "the voice of millennial moms." Maternal Care Act. She also created Mompreneur and Me, the first national free mommy and me professional development event for moms who can't afford time away from the kids to network or develop professional skills. Mompreneur and Me gives companies the opportunity to connect with affluent millennial moms via an intimate, unforgettable brand experience. Across the country, they connect moms offline and provide a guilt-free space for fellowship... all while helping them spend quality time



Andria Cornell

Andria Cornell is the Associate Director for Women's and Infant Health at the Association of Maternal and Child Health Programs. In her position, Ms. Cornell oversees an extensive portfolio of grant-funded efforts bridging public health and clinical care in women's health, improving birth outcomes, care and support for the mother-baby dyad, and transition to early childhood systems. The guiding light for her team is health equity, and they prioritize family and community engagement as vital to achieving it. Ms. Cornell has worked in the academic, federal and nonprofit sectors advancing maternal and child health in the fields of public health, research, and health care. She has a Master of Science in Public Health in reproductive, perinatal and women's health and a certificate in public health informatics from Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health.



Amy Haddad

Amy Haddad is the director of policy and government affairs at the Association of Maternal and Child Health Programs. In this role, she leads AMCHP's work to advocate for Title V appropriations; she promotes AMCHP's policy priorities, represents AMCHP in various policy coalitions, and supports the Legislative and Health Care Finance Committee. Prior to assuming this position, she served as the associate director of government affairs for more than three years. Before joining AMCHP, Ms. Haddad served as the director of public policy for Children's Cause for Cancer Advocacy and brings over seven years of Capitol Hill experience, including six years as legislative assistant to former Rep. Lois Capps (D-CA).



Robin Hooper, LCSW

Robin is a wife, mommy, and social worker. Robin has been in the mental health field for over 20 years and has extensive background and training in trauma and complex trauma. Robin suffered from debilitating OCD after the birth of her son, Joey, 7 years ago. Despite this experience and being a therapist, nothing prepared Robin for the psychosis that hit during the pregnancy and subsequently post-partum of her twin daughters Emmy & Holly 4 years ago. Robin comes to Mom Congress to be a voice for the mommies that did not make it out of the darkness.



S. Nadia Hussain

S. Nadia Hussain is the Maternal Justice Campaign Director at MomsRising. She currently serves on the National Board of Directors of the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) as the Affiliate representative from the New Jersey ACLU Affiliate. On the ACLU-NJ Board, she also serves as Affiliate Equity Officer and is the co-founder of the Bangladeshi American Women's Development Initiative (BAWDI), a community initiative empowering Bangladeshi women and girls in NJ.

Prior to this, she was Program Director at the Andrew Goodman Foundation, where she developed and led their Vote Everywhere program, focusing on making voting more systematically accessible for communities around the country. Nadia has also worked to organize youth of color in Richmond, CA, taught photojournalism classes to refugee students in Oakland, CA and

served as a domestic violence advocate for South Asian women and families.



Jean Ko, PhD

LCDR Jean Ko, PhD is an epidemiologist with the Division of Reproductive Health at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). In this capacity, she leads surveillance and research related to maternal mental health and substance use, including marijuana and opioid use, and related neonatal abstinence syndrome. She is a Lieutenant commander in the United States Public Health Service (USPHS) and Adjunct Assistant Professor at Emory University's Rollins School of Public Health. She has served on multiple public health and humanitarian emergencies, including the Unaccompanied Children mission, Zika Virus response, and Ebola Hemorrhagic Fever Outbreak in West Africa. She received her PhD in epidemiology, focused on psychiatric disorders from the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health and joined CDC as an Epidemic Intelligence Service Officer in the 2010-2012 class.



Jennifer Marshall

Jennifer is the Co-Founder and Executive Director of This Is My Brave, a mental health storytelling nonprofit organization which since its inception in 2014 has hosted 57 unique productions featuring over 725 individuals telling their true stories of overcoming mental illness and addiction through creative expression. Jenn lives with type 1 bipolar disorder and suffered from a postpartum psychosis episode and an antenatal psychosis episode during the years she was having her children, now 8 and 10. Her award-winning blog - BipolarMomLife.com - which she launched in 2011, became an inspiration to many and was the path that led her to create a platform for others to also share their stories.



Kay Matthews

Kay Matthews is a Successful Business Woman, Motivator, Advocate and Mental Health & Wellness Advisor. Kay Matthews lives in Houston, Texas and is the Founder of BabyCakes & Brunch and Shades of Blue Project which was started after delivering her daughter stillborn and experiencing maternal mental health issues. She has been a local community advocate in Houston for over 20 years and her organization BabyCakes & Brunch has been recognized by the Mayor and was given their own day in the City. As a very active community advocate Kay feels that helping others to reach their own goals is the best benefit of helping those she encounters. Kay is now actively teaching and speaking to women of all ages to help them better understand how important it is to help themselves before during and after childbirth. Helping them to realize that they are able to continue to live their dreams and still make life great against all odds. To Kay this is the most important

aspect of the work she does within the communities and it's the motivation that she uses to continue to educate communities worldwide.



Marie McCausland

Marie McCausland is a scientist, mother, and advocate. After experiencing a near-miss with Post-Partum Preeclampsia in 2017 following the birth of her first child, Marie became a maternal health advocate. Marie is currently a Spokesperson for Merck for Mothers which allows her to raise awareness and help moms find their voice, as well as a Postdoctoral Fellow at Case Western Reserve University researching HIV in the Gastrointestinal Tract.



Tammy Murphy
NJ First Lady

Tammy Snyder Murphy has a wide range of experience including working with nonprofits and joining the Women's March in Trenton. Tammy has always believed in problem-solving through coalition-building and participation.

Tammy and Governor Philip D. Murphy have been married for 23 years and together have four children: Josh, Emma, Charlie, and Sam. Together, they founded a think tank to explore ways to help grow the middle class and jumpstart New Jersey's economy. Most recently, Tammy has been energized and inspired traveling the state and meeting New Jerseyans to hear their concerns, both with Phil and as his surrogate, utilizing her experience in the private and nonprofit sectors to work through policy ideas and solutions, and supporting and advising the Governor on his transition.

Tammy also serves as Secretary and charter member of The Climate Reality Action Fund, an organization founded by former Vice-President Al Gore. As First Lady, Tammy will continue being a partner to Phil as he works with Lieutenant Governor Sheila Oliver to tackle the formidable challenges facing the state and its incredible residents.



Chanel L. Porchia Albert

Chanel L. Porchia Albert is the founder of Ancient Song Doula Services a reproductive health organization focused on providing resources and full spectrum doula services to women of color and marginalized communities, full spectrum doula, lactation counselor, and Midwifery assistant. Her work within infant and maternal health has led her across the globe to Uganda were she has served as a maternal health strategist in rural war torn areas to address the lack of resources to birthing mothers, she is a certified lactation counselor, midwifery assistant and vegan chef and has served on various advisory boards throughout the country. She has served as a consultant for the NYC Department of Health in Mental Hygiene and other healthcare institutions engaging providers in birth justice and serves on the advisory board at Ariadne Labs at Harvard Medical School, Board of Directors for March for Moms, Board Member of The Foundation for the Advancement of Midwifery and Village Birth Intl. Her work in birth and

reproductive justice continues to span into the research and methods of care of marginalized people and people of color bringing a human rights framework into birthing rooms and beyond into institutional reform and accountability measures within healthcare to address implicit bias and racism within reproductive healthcare. Chanel and Ancient Song work has been featured on CNN' Champions for Change, cover of Working Mother Magazine, NY Times and more. When she is not teaching or facilitating workshop you can find her spending time with her six children.



Nicole Purnell

In 2005, Nicole Purnell survived severe preeclampsia and HELLP that caused multiple organ failure, placenta abruption, hemorrhage and resulted in the stillbirth of her son, Cooper, at 34 weeks gestation. She found the Preeclampsia Foundation in the following months and began volunteering. For ten years, Nicole chaired the Dallas Promise Walk for Preeclampsia while filling other volunteer roles such as regional coach, participated in the Patient Support Network and contributed to the newsletter. In 2015, the Purnell's welcomed a daughter after a successful preeclampsia free pregnancy. After 15 years as a project manager in private industry, Nicole joined the staff at the Preeclampsia Foundation as the MoMMA's Voices Coalition program manger.



Nan Strauss, JD

Nan Strauss is the Director of Policy and Advocacy for Every Mother Counts, where she leads the organization's efforts to advance policies that expand access to evidence-based, respectful care practices for all members of the community. Previously, as the Director of Research and Policy at Choices in Childbirth, herwork included research and advocacy framing midwifery and doula care as high value models of care and collaborating to develop and implement the Healthy Women, Healthy Futures community doula initiative serving all five boroughs of New York City.

Nan's work on maternal health began at Amnesty International USA where, as the Director of Maternal Health Research and Policy, she co-authored the groundbreaking report, Deadly Delivery: The Maternal Health Care Crisis in the USA in 2010. Her work framed maternal and reproductive health in the context of the right to health, and included campaigning, policy, advocacy,

and media efforts regarding maternal health.



Christy Turlington BurnsFounder & CEO Every Mother Counts

Christy Turlington Burns is a mother, global maternal health advocate, and Founder & CEO of Every Mother Counts. After experiencing a childbirth related complication following the delivery of her first child in 2003, Christy was compelled to direct and produce the documentary feature film, No Woman, No Cry, to explore challenges and solutions that impact maternal and infant health around the world. In 2010, she founded Every Mother Counts to heighten awareness about the global maternal health crisis. Christy has been recognized as one of Time's 100 Most Influential People (2014) and one of Glamour Magazine's Women of the Year (2013). In March 2016, EMC was recognized as one of Fast Company magazine's Top 10 Most Innovative Companies in Not-For-Profit (2016). Prior to her work as a global maternal health advocate, Christy received international acclaim as a model

representing the world's biggest fashion and beauty brands.

Christy has served on the Harvard Medical School Global Health Council, the Harvard School of Public Health Board of Dean's Advisors and the advisory Board of New York University's Nursing School. Christy resides in New York City where she lives with her husband, filmmaker Edward Burns, and their two children. She recently completed her 8th marathon on behalf of Every Mother Counts, to highlight the distance barrier that millions of women face when in need of essential maternity care.