

Maternal Mortality Candidate Questionnaire

This form has been created to address your candidate's stance on maternal mortality. There are five sections of the questionnaire, with a total of 15 questions. It should take no longer than 15 minutes to complete.

Please fill out the form as completely as possible to outline the knowledge, beliefs, actions and future plans of your candidate regarding the public health issue of maternal mortality. Responses will be made public on our website. Please complete the questionnaire by September 18, 2020.

Candidate first and last name *

Dr. Woody Myers

What race (election) and/or district is your candidate running for? *

Governor of Indiana

What are the city and state of your campaign headquarters? *

Indianapolis, IN

Knowledge and Awareness of Maternal Mortality

Please complete to the best of your ability.

Is your candidate aware of public health initiatives to address maternal mortality in their state?

*

- Yes
- No
- No position

What is your candidate's level of knowledge about maternal mortality in their state? Please respond on a scale of 1-5, with 1 = no knowledge to 5 = very knowledgeable about this issue. *

- 1 - No knowledge about issue
- 2 - Limited knowledge about issue
- 3 - Some knowledge about issue
- 4 - Knowledgeable about issue
- 5 - Very knowledgeable about issue

Support of Maternal Mortality Initiatives

Please complete to the best of your ability.

Does your candidate support legislation related to addressing maternal mortality health disparities? *

- Yes
- No
- No position

How is your candidate supporting maternal morality in their state? Provide any additional information about their current support for this public health issue.

Access to quality healthcare is the core of Dr. Woody Myers's platform. He supports access to comprehensive reproductive health and contraceptive services as a prevention protocol. Thirty percent of all live births in Indiana result from unintended pregnancy which is a contributing factor to maternal mortality. It's time we put aside politics and provide women with the full range of reproductive services and information, including abortion. Dr. Myers also supports the following ways to reduce maternal mortality:

- Improve the delivery of prenatal and postpartum care and identify best practices for healthy outcomes for mothers.
- Develop new legislation and laws that address patient safety protocols and cultural competency training for healthcare professionals
- Fund access to preventative and reproductive health services, specifically targeting women in Black, Latinx, and low-income communities.
- Implement best practices for healthy outcomes for mothers
- Implement a statewide postpartum action plan for mothers from birth through a year after birth
- Bring focused solutions to advance life-saving progress for mothers
- Institute a new campaign to eliminate smoking in and around pregnant women

Actions Taken in Support of Maternal Mortality Initiatives

Please fill out to the best of your ability.

Has your candidate addressed maternal mortality in their campaign platform or do they plan to do so in the future? *

- Yes
- No
- No position

If your candidate has addressed maternal mortality in their campaign platform, please provide link to campaign platform page.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2MIAt0oFsg&feature=youtu.be>

Has your candidate made a public statement about maternal mortality? *

- Yes
- No
- Not yet, but we are planning to.

If your candidate has made a public statement about maternal mortality, please provide a link to the statement.

<https://youtu.be/2MIAt0oFsg>

Has your candidate voted in favor of maternal mortality related bills or public health measures in their current role or past positions? *

- Yes
- No
- Not applicable

If your candidate has voted in favor of maternal mortality bills or measures, please provide applicable link(s).

Not applicable

Future Plans and Actions

Please complete to the best of your ability.

If elected, will your candidate support policies that address maternal mortality in their state? *

- Yes
- No
- No Position/Unsure

Is there anything else you would like to add about your candidate's support of policies aimed at addressing maternal mortality?

When Dr. Myers was Health Commissioner of Indiana, maternal mortality was one of his top priorities. During his tenure, Indiana put policies in place that helped to lower the mortality rate. Today, years later, Indiana has one of the worst maternal mortality rates in the country, with Black women dying at a rate of 71.5 per 100,000 live births compared to 49.8 among white women. Hoosier women are dying because their state leadership would rather play politics with women's health than take measures to protect their health. Dr. Myers is ready to do all it takes to end infant and maternal mortality.

Proposed policies include:

- Implement best practices for healthy outcomes for mothers.
 - Mandate and enforce workplace pregnancy accommodations.
 - Improve the delivery of prenatal and postpartum care.
 - Develop a statewide postpartum plan and supports for mothers from birth through age 1.
 - Develop new legislation and laws that address patient safety protocols and cultural competency training for healthcare professional.
 - Ensure access to comprehensive reproductive health and contraceptive services; giving women the power to choose how and when they have a child would significantly reduce unwanted pregnancies, thus reducing maternal and infant mortality.
 - Fund access to preventative and reproductive health services, specifically targeting women in Black, Latinx, and low-income communities.
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This form was created inside of Doctors of the World.

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