



GOVERNOR ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER

PROCLAMATION

Over the years, infant mortality rates have been significantly reduced through major improvements in early prenatal and maternity care. Unfortunately, tragic infant deaths still occur far too frequently, especially in the African-American community.

There are high rates of premature delivery and low birth-weight among African-American infants. These conditions are often a result of inadequate prenatal care and are the foremost contributing factors to disease and sickness among newborns.

To help reduce infant mortality in the African-American community, the California Department of Health Services implemented the Black Infant Health Program (BIH). The BIH Program works to improve birth outcomes for African-American babies by identifying, enrolling and tracking pregnant and parenting women and their children to ensure they receive adequate prenatal and pediatric care.

In California, we are committed to advancing the health and well-being of our children, and we remain dedicated to improving the lives of African-American mothers and their newborns.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER, Governor of the State of California, do hereby proclaim February 20-26, 2005, as "African-American Infant Health Week."

IN WITNESS WHEREOF I have here unto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of California to be affixed this 16th day of February 2005.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Arnold Schwarzenegger".

Arnold Schwarzenegger
GOVERNOR OF CALIFORNIA

Attest:

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kevin Shelley".

Kevin Shelley
SECRETARY OF STATE

