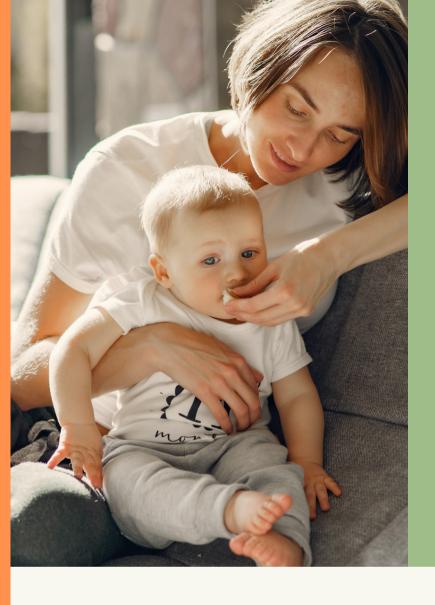


2021 impact report 💥
Celebrating growth



# About us

Our mission is to connect families with newborns to passionate community members who provide quality, hands-or postpartum support.

### **Board of Directors**

Danielle Boog Kiara Baskin Zachary Meston Kyria' Phenix Courtney Hilbert Krista Jackson Daniel Spisak Jacqueline Bos

See board bios at momsbloom.org/boardmembers

















# Why do families need MomsBloom?

With extended family members geographically dispersed or away at work, parents often do not get the help they need. MomsBloom knows how exhausted and overwhelmed parents can feel after the birth of a baby. Our organization brings families and volunteers together to provide hands-on and emotional support. We are funded by the generosity of individual and corporate donors along with Kent County taxpayers and the voter-approved Ready by Five Early Childhood Millage. MomsBloom's services are proven to decrease parental stress, increase their confidence in their parenting role, develop a sustainable support system, and help prevent perinatal mood disorder symptoms. In 2021, MomsBloom served 301 families and trained 255 volunteers.



301
Families

255 Volunteers



# Support provided





Self care



Help with baby



Light housework



Companionship



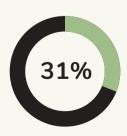
Help with siblings



Meal prep



Connect with other parents



Community resources

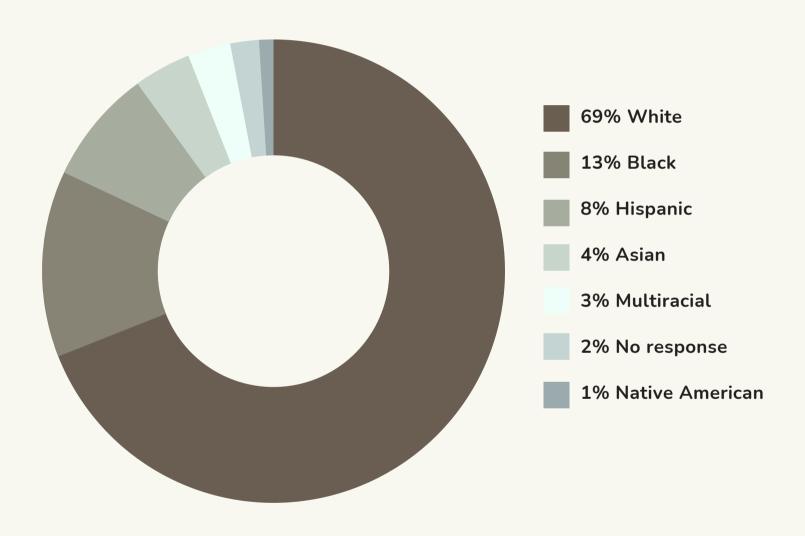
Volunteer spotlight Isabela Braga





Isabela is what we call a "full circle mom" - which means she started as a MomsBloom client, and then returned to the organization to give back as a volunteer! Isabela says that visits from her volunteer were a "breath of fresh air" in an otherwise isolating time when her daughter was a newborn. Isabela credits the support of several community resources, including MomsBloom, for helping her to escape an abusive situation years ago. She now draws from her own experience to fuel a passion for helping postpartum mothers, who she serves with weekly postpartum support visits through MomsBloom.

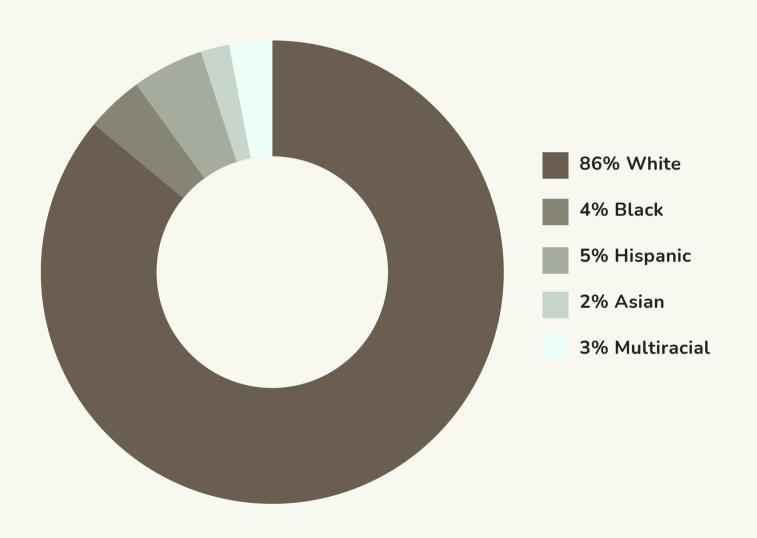




39% of families are living in poverty

**58%** of families have multiple children





**235** new volunteers trained

**11,384** hours of support

**\$341,520** \_\_value

# Our growth



#### **Families served**



#### Volunteers matched



#### **Hours of support**



# **Match Story**

Karolina Ramirez was a new mother hailing from Columbia, feeling isolated in a new country. All while navigating pregnancy, childbirth, and new motherhood in a pandemic, Karolina maintained her status as a graduate student. She credits her MomsBloom volunteer, Vickie, with helping her to feel more connected and supported in her challenging postpartum time, from which she emerged dedicated to pursuing a social service career. Karolina said, "Vickie listened to me and empowered me. She was such an empathetic person and she loved my daughter. We love her."



#### Vickie St. John

A mother to four grown children, Vickie said, "I understand how isolating and exhausting motherhood can be." Now that her sons are grown, Vickie signed up to become a MomsBloom volunteer after seeing a story about the program on the local news.

#### **Karolina Ramirez**

Karolina was nominated for Mother of the Year at the 2021 BloomAwards and is shown here celebrating with her family at the luncheon.





#### Current Efforts

- Re-evaluated our CPS referral policy with BIPOC-led community partners
- Offered trainings through partnerships to improve cultural competence
- Supported families that are experiencing poverty through Arbor Circle.
- Supported families with a refugee background through Bethany Christian Services.
- Held training on Adverse Childhood Experiences and trauma-informed support through
   Ottawa County CMH.
- Held training on Postpartum Experiences within the Hispanic and Latinx community through the Hispanic Center of West Michigan.

#### **Upcoming Efforts**

- Additional trainings to support LGBTQ+, Indigenous, Black, and Brown families in need of postpartum help.
- Implicit Bias training required for all staff.
- Goal to increase the number of mentor relationships for BIPOC postpartum people (being supported by a BIPOC volunteer).
- Increase diversity among our staff, board, and committee with a strong focus on giving them space to share their voice and make decisions.