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# GMBC Partners With Triad Baby Love Plus Program To Decrease Infant Mortality

North Carolina ranks 47th in the nation for infant mortality. Forsyth County continues to fall behind the state and nation in the reduction of infant mortality. According to the North Carolina State Center for Health Statistics for 2001 - the infant death rate in Forsyth County is currently 14% for African-American babies compared to 7.5% for white babies. The total death rate of African-American babies is 3% higher in Forsyth County in comparison to other counties of its population. Although the state average of infant deaths seems to be slowly decreasing overall, the percentage of those deaths being form African-American decent has increased.

Efforts to address this problem, Galilee Missionary Baptist Church received a \$14,000 grant from the Triad Baby Love Plus Program to help reduce the infant mortality rate in Forsyth County. Under the leadership of Pastor Robert L. McGowens, Sr., the Church's vision that views the church as the foundation for a stronger and healthier community in which all may thrive.

The ministry is a partnership with local community agencies in Forsyth County to improve the health of African-American babies. The focus of the ministry is African-American women of childbearing age who live in the eastern part of the community. Monthly information sessions will be held to teach the women holistic and spiritually based health promotion behaviors to improve the health of infants and children.

According to Teresa Tyson, the ministry's coordinator, facilitators from local ommunity agencies will discuss a variety of topics such as: child safety, immunizations, growth and development, nutrition, family planning, substance abuse, domestic violence, sexually transmitted diseases, mentoring, self-esteem, employment and budgeting.

Classes are free and open to the public. Child care and nutritional supplements will be provided. Door prizes will also be given. Please call the Church Office to register for the next classes.

Galilee Missionary Baptist Church 575 Martin Luther King Jr., Drive • Winston-Salem, NC 27101 (336) 724-3857

#### GALILEE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHUCH CARE MINISTRY Presents

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## A CHILD SAFETY INFORMATION SESSION

Classes are free and open to the public. Child care and nutritional supplements will be provided Door prizes will also be given.

### **Monthly Topics**

- Child safety Immunizations
- Growth and development
- Nutrition Family planning
- Substance abuse Domestic violence
- Sexually transmitted diseases
- Mentoring Self-esteem
- Employment and budgeting

Please call the Church Office to register for the next classes.

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