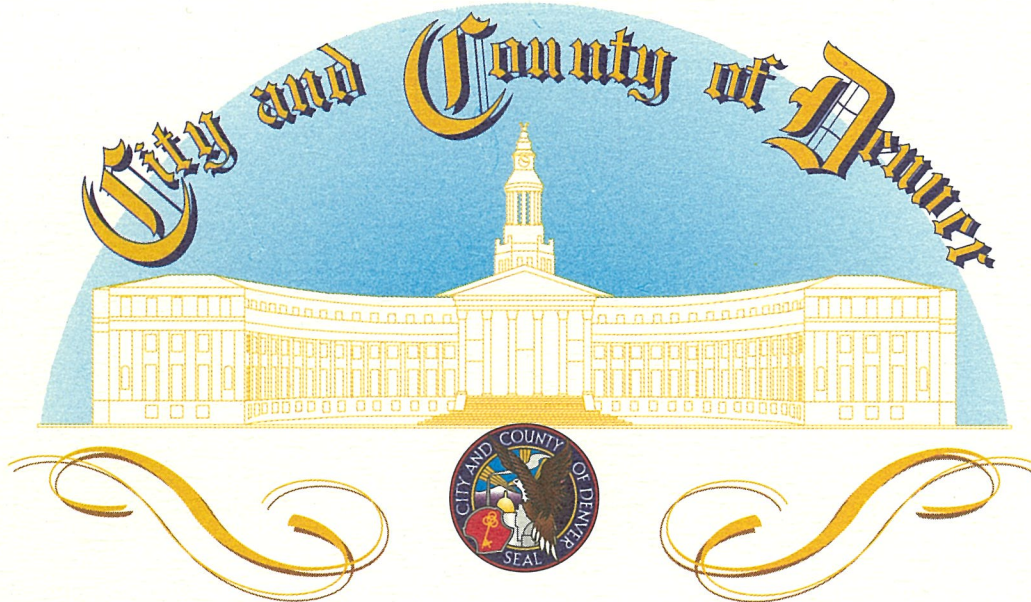




Proclamation

- WHEREAS,** *Sister-to-Sister: International Network of African American Women, Inc. exists to advance equity in all aspects of Black women and girls' lives through community, education, scholarship, connectivity, emotional support and networking globally; and*
- WHEREAS,** *In the U.S., Black Americans experience higher rates of poor health and disease in myriad health conditions, including birth risks when compared to their white counterparts, and their life expectancy is four years lower than that of white Americans; and*
- WHEREAS,** *In 2021, a National Institutes of Health-funded study found that in the U.S. the rate of maternal mortality – deaths related to pregnancy or childbirth – among non-Hispanic Black women was 3.5 times higher than among non-Hispanic white women; and*
- WHEREAS,** *NIH's analysis showed that postpartum cardiomyopathy and the blood pressure disorders preeclampsia and eclampsia were leading causes of maternal death for Black women, with mortality rates five times higher than those for white women; and*
- WHEREAS,** *research conclusively shows that across all income spectrums, education levels and backgrounds, Black women are much more likely than white women to die in childbirth, and Black newborns are twice as likely to die before age one than are white newborns; and*
- WHEREAS,** *the City and County of Denver joins with Sister-to-Sister in their efforts to raise awareness of the health disparities our Black sisters, mothers, daughters and children face, and applauds them on this day of fundraising to help further their cause.*

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MICHAEL B. HANCOCK, MAYOR of the City and County of Denver, Colorado, by virtue of the authority vested in me, do hereby officially proclaim **FEBRUARY 25, 2023**, to be known as:

“SISTER-TO-SISTER DAY”

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the official seal of the City and County of Denver to be affixed this 25th day of February, 2023



**MICHAEL B. HANCOCK
MAYOR**