

Canopy NWA awarded **\$75,000** from Blue & You Foundation as part of improvements to Arkansas maternal and pediatric health programs.

September 17th, 2024



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE | News Provided by the Arkansas Blue & You of Arkansas Foundation and Canopy NWA

As a part of nearly \$1 Million awarded to 9 Arkansas Organizations and Foundations in serving infants, mothers, and mothers-to-be, Canopy NWA has been awarded \$75,000.

FAYETTEVILLE, ARKANSAS, 9/17/2024 -

Arkansas leads the nation with the highest mortality rate, and the third-highest infant mortality rate, according to the Arkansas Center for Health Improvement. Canopy NWA's \$75,000 award lands in tandem with fellow Arkansas organizations seeking to improve maternal and pediatric health programs across the state. Appointing these awards, Little Rock's "Blue & You Foundation", an organization long facing Arkansas' national statistics in maternal and pediatric care with strategic gumption, granting more than \$60 Million in initiatives, grants, and funds to improve Arkansan lives since 2001.

What does Canopy NWA plan to use this award for? Hiring a home-visiting care-coordinator onto it's staff to help women who speak limited English navigate doctor appointments, connecting clients with resources such as WIC and local maternal and pediatric care. Furthermore, Canopy NWA will also provide postpartum care kits, pack-n-plays, car seats and strollers. Resettling and supporting refugees resettled in NW Arkansas since 2016, Canopy NWA is very familiar with constrained resources and navigating complex medical needs across languages and cultural dynamics.

“

“From large hospitals to grassroots community initiatives, we're all working together to improve healthy outcomes...We're grateful to be able to provide funding to organizations around the state that are educating expectant parents and providing resources before and after birth, creating healthy families and communities.”

- Arkansas Blue & You Foundation President, Rebecca Pittillo

”

Canopy NWA receives this award alongside the following Arkansas Based organizations dedicated to providing access to proper nutrition, creating support groups, and assisting families without access to healthcare. Recent award recipients include:

- **Arkansas Advocates for Children and Families**
- [Arkansas Children’s Foundation](#)
- **Arkansas Hunger Relief Alliance**
- [Everyone Deserves a Doula](#)
- **Jefferson Regional Medical Center**
- [St. Bernards Development Foundation](#)
- **Ujima Maternity Network**
- [University of Arkansas Foundation, Inc.](#)

To learn more about the [Blue & You Foundation of Arkansas](#) and the strategic plans for awarded organizations, see the [following press release](#). The organization’s mission: “The Blue & You Foundation is working to improve the health of Arkansas communities from the very start, awarding nearly \$1 million to organizations across the state working to address maternal and pediatric health.”

About Canopy NWA

Since 2016, Canopy NWA has assisted and resettled over 850 refugees in NW Arkansas. It’s mission is to create a community where refugees are welcomed and equipped with all they need to build new lives. It does so through immediate refugee resettlement assistance, the “Long Welcome” strategic offerings, and community engagement all around NW Arkansas and the surrounding area. To learn more about Canopy NWA, and support the work of welcoming refugees arriving in Northwest Arkansas, visit [CanopyNWA.org](#).

Media Contacts

Name	Contact Information
Khalid Ahmadzai Senior Director of Economic & Community Development	(501) 551-5563 Khalid.Ahmadzai@canopynwa.org
Joanna Krause Executive Director	479-717-7358 Joanna.Krause@canopynwa.org