Proposals will be reviewed using the following criteria:

1. The proposal is responsive to the goal of the Research on the Structural Racism, Social Injustice and Health Disparities in Maternal and Child Health Pilot Grants. It engages in diverse and inclusive research and addresses the impact of structural racism and social injustice as key drivers in health disparities that affect maternal and child health.

2. These proposal seek to fund small, “seed” projects that will create a foundation for a larger endeavor. The proposed project scope must be feasible and budget realistic for collecting and/or analyzing data within the expected time frame of 12 months.

3. The project highlights an important problem or barrier to progress in maternal and child health disparities (e.g. racial and ethnic, socioeconomic and geographic, sexual orientation and gender identity) and how the proposed work addresses the inequities or closes the gap.

4. The proposed methods should be well aligned with the research questions proposed. A variety of qualitative and quantitative research methods may appropriate. The analysis plans used should be well thought-out and clearly defined.

5. The investigational team has the experience and expertise to perform the study.

6. The applicant seeks input or collaborates with key stakeholders in the community, e.g. advocates, policymakers, school and community leaders, parents, youth.

7. There is a clear plan for engagement with priority populations, which may include but is not limited to, people identifying as Black, Asian, Pacific Islander, American Indian, Hispanic, bi-or Multiracial, all Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity (SOGI) populations, and mothers and children who live in lower-income communities.

8. The proposal outlines specific plans for dissemination back to community members and other key audiences that may benefit from the research.