Kimberly Seals Allers is an award-winning journalist, author and a nationally recognized media commentator, consultant and advocate for breastfeeding and infant health. A former senior editor at ESSENCE and writer at FORTUNE magazine, Kimberly is widely considered a leading voice in the counterculture movement in infant feeding. As a consultant, Kimberly leverages decades of communication and media expertise to develop impactful community engagement initiatives and strategic communication campaigns. She also leads nationwide workshops on cultural competency and breastfeeding and is a prominent speaker on community-based strategies to reduce the racial disparities in breastfeeding and infant mortality rates. Last year, her online commentaries on the social, structural and racial complexities of maternal and child health issues received over 10 million page views. Kimberly’s fifth book, The Big Let Down—How Medicine, Big Business and Feminism Undermine Breastfeeding will be published by St. Martin’s Press in January 2017.

Kimberly is currently living her dream—developing a project she conceived and designed—as project director for The First Food Friendly Community Initiative (3FCI), a pilot project in Detroit and Philadelphia to shift local cultural norms by creating a replicable accreditation process for breastfeeding-friendly communities. The pilot is funded by the W.K. Kellogg Foundation. In 2011, Kimberly was named an IATP Food and Community Fellow focused on reframing breastfeeding disparities as a food systems issue. Kimberly is also the former editorial director of The Black Maternal Health Project of Women’s eNews.


Kimberly has appeared on Good Morning America, CNN, Anderson Cooper, the Tom Joyner Morning Show, Fox News and has been featured in various international and national media outlets, including The Guardian (U.K.), U.S. News & World Report, Essence, Black Enterprise, Pregnancy and in various online media properties.

Kimberly is a graduate of New York University and Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism. A divorced mother of two, she lives in Long Island, NY with her children.
Kimberly is one of the most powerful keynote speakers we have ever contracted. Her presentation was eye-opening, engaging and sincere. I have never seen such overall approval and admiration from the crowd as I did after Kimberly’s keynote. I would be surprised if there was a dry eye in the audience and anyone left seated when it was over.

- John Rabold, CMP,
  Everglide, Maternal and Child Health Conference

We were extremely fortunate to host Ms. Kimberly Seals Allers as our special invited guest speaker at LaSalle’s MPH Awards ceremony. Ms. Seals Allers inspired our graduates, alumni, community members, and dignitaries as she thoughtfully & passionately addressed disparities in health and wellness in urban communities and called on us to “not confuse someone’s circumstances with their character”.

- Holly Harner, PhD, MBA, MPH, CRNP, WHCNP-BC,
  Department of Urban Public Health and Nutrition, LaSalle University

We could not be happier with the content and clarity Ms. Seals Allers provided to our conference attendees. Kimberly spoke from her experiences, sharing her truth, passion and wisdom. Kimberly Seals Allers is a staunch advocate and phenomenal breastfeeding advocate who captivates audiences. We definitely look forward to future collaborations with Ms. Seals Allers as we work to breakdown inequities in California, one community at a time.

- California Breastfeeding Coalition, Executive Board
Best speaker of the day! First true solution-oriented discussion today. It moved me to tears.”

- California Breastfeeding Coalition attendee

Kimberly Seals Allers’ presence was simply amazing. It was eye-opening to me to learn the nuanced meanings behind our common breastfeeding language and how we can correct it. She was one of the most amazing speakers we’ve ever had.

- Erin Nold  
  Chair, Chicago Regional Breastfeeding Task Force

Kimberly Seals Allers is a breastfeeding rockstar and is always standing-ovation worthy!

- Marion Rice  
  Chair, Breastfeeding Coalition of Oregon
COMMUNITIES MATTER: THE MOVEMENT FOR 1ST FOOD FRIENDLY

HUMAN MILK BANKING ASSOCIATION OF NORTH AMERICA; RETHINKING HUMAN MILK BANKING WITH AN EQUITY LENS.

W.K. KELLOGG FOUNDATION’S FIRST FOOD FORUM; BUILDING EQUITY IN BREASTFEEDING: STORIES FROM THE FIELD

UC BERKELEY SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH, “BOOTS ON GROUND” ADVOCACY SERIES; THE COMMERCIALIZATION OF MOTHER’S MILK & HEALTH EQUITY.

CALIFORNIA BREASTFEEDING COALITION, KEYNOTE, ASSESSING COMMUNITIES: THE POWER OF ASKING THE RIGHT QUESTIONS, THE RIGHT WAY

LEHMAN COLLEGE SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH, GUEST LECTURER

COMMUNITIES MATTER, KEYNOTE, BLACK MOTHER’S BREASTFEEDING ASSOCIATION RACIAL EQUITY SUMMIT, DETROIT

COMMUNITIES MATTER, TEXAS WIC REGIONAL, HOUSTON, TX

NO MOTHER LEFT BEHIND: CLOSING THE GAP IN RACIAL DISPARITIES, CALIFORNIA BREASTFEEDING COALITION: GOLD RUSH OF BREASTFEEDING SUPPORT

COMMUNITIES MATTER: THE MOVEMENT FOR 1ST FOOD FRIENDLY COMMUNITIES, HEALTHY CHILDREN PROJECT INTERNATIONAL BREASTFEEDING CONFERENCE, ORLANDO

RECENT SPEAKER KEYNOTE HIGHLIGHTS
Kimberly works directly with organizations to develop high-impact community engagement and communication campaigns. Drawing on decades of media expertise and over six years of on-the-ground community insights, Kimberly uniquely understands how to create messaging and communication initiatives that connect.

She has led innovative community-based projects in New Orleans, Birmingham, Detroit and Philadelphia that assessed the impact of “first food deserts”—communities that severely lack accessible resources to support mothers who choose to breastfeed—and developed community-partnered strategies to transform these areas into more breastfeeding supportive environments.

Kimberly also provides strategic communication and messaging services to hospitals, non-profits and other public health-related organizations looking to more effectively engage communities of color.
THE BIG LETDOWN IS COMING JANUARY 2017

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