

**Fact Sheet** 

## Planned Home Birth is Safe for Most Mothers and Babies

Healthy women with qualified care providers, usually midwives, can have safe home births.

## **Home birth reduces:**

- risk of infection
- · risks from unnecessary interventions
- maternal morbidity rates from complications and interventions
- risks from errors in hospitals
- interference in bonding and breastfeeding from hospital policies
- risks from poor staffing levels in hospitals
- · risks of tampering with the baby

## **Home birth provides:**

- safe, familiar and private surroundings for labor and birth
- · woman-centered care during pregnancy, labor, and birth
- family-oriented birth with no strangers present
- an opportunity for immediate bonding and breastfeeding
- · less disruption and stress for the whole family
- affirmation that birth is a normal and profound life event

Research shows that planned home birth with a qualified attendant is safe for most mothers and babies.