

Citizens *for* Midwifery

Learn, Connect and Take Action

Dear Midwifery Client,

Do you appreciate the care your midwife provides?

Did you know that you might not have access to a midwife in the future or in another state? For many women in the US today a midwife is not an available option, in or out of the hospital. State laws and regulations, as well as legal and economic pressures, continue to restrict the ability of midwives to offer their services.

Citizens for Midwifery works to preserve and increase availability of and access to midwives across the country; read more about Citizens for Midwifery on the other side of this letter.

Help women, now and in the future, have access to the Midwives Model of Care. More people must get involved to make a difference. Support the work of Citizens for Midwifery with your membership.

We invite you to join today! Use the convenience of joining online at www.cfmidwifery.org or fill out and mail in the form on the other side of this flier.

Thank you!
Citizens for Midwifery Board of Directors

Did you know?

- Fewer than half of our states currently license direct entry midwives, and few such midwives practice in states where they are not legal.
- Certified nurse-midwives practice legally in every state, but are almost always hampered at least to some degree by medical model of care restrictions over their practices, primarily due to requirements to have a practice agreement with a physician (requirements vary from state to state).
- Midwives practicing outside of hospitals have been subjected to investigations and felony prosecutions, just for practicing midwifery.
- Many health insurance or HMO policies do not cover midwife-attended births and/or out-of-hospital births, even though these are safe and cost-effective and preferred by many mothers and families.
- The American Medical Association and the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists work actively to restrict the scope of practice of mid-level health care providers, including midwives. Increasingly, some state level medical associations are working aggressively to oppose licensing legislation for direct entry midwives, the specialists in home birth.

Citizens for Midwifery works across the country to promote the Midwives Model of Care and provide tools and information to help expectant parents and midwifery advocates bring about changes in maternity care, including increased legal access to midwives, in and out of the hospital.

Your support matters! Make a difference with a donation or membership to Citizens for Midwifery!