



DELAWARE HEALTH
AND SOCIAL SERVICES
Division of Public Health

Edgehill Shopping Center
Division of Public Health
Large Training Room
43 S. DuPont Highway
Dover, DE 19901

Direct-Entry Midwifery Relationship & Standards Subcommittee Meeting
June 4, 2014
6:00-8:00 PM
Summary Notes

Subcommittee Members in Attendance: Co-Chairs Dr. Janice Tildon-Burton, MD, ACOG, Matthew Heiger, DFSB; Kris Bennett, DPH; Sandra Elliott, CNM; Dorinda Dove, CNM, BCD; Joan Greeley, MSC, CNS, LDN, Birth Consumer; Wendy Mathews, Student Midwife; Steve Newton, PhD, DSU Faculty; **Excused:** Sarah Culver, DFSB; Susan DiNatale, CPM; Nancy Fan, MD, OB/GYN; Mary Lou Gavin, MD, AAP;

I. Welcome and Introductions

Dr Tildon-Burton welcomed members and attendees. Since subcommittee members and public attendees were all acquainted with one another – introductions were deemed unnecessary. Co-Chair Janice Tildon-Burton led the meeting with the support of Co-Chair Matthew Heiger.

II. Updates from Members

Legislation

A significant number of members and public attendees had attended the Delaware House Health and Human Development Committee immediately prior to this meeting. There were strong feelings vocalized regarding the positions expressed at the Committee Hearing by persons from agencies and organizations involved in the subcommittee work. This resulted in an extended, and at times, heated discussion. In brief – some thought that agencies and organizations had adequate opportunity for input and that the input had been incorporated in the bill; and therefore they did not understand opposition.

Subsequently there was an extended discussion regarding the specifics in House Substitute 1 for House Bill 319 introduced on June 3. This bill may be found at:

<http://www.legis.delaware.gov/LIS/LIS147.NSF/7d9d12462288129f852568a500018e7d/b90b29be3619623285257cec0048b37b?OpenDocument>

III. Discussion on Standards Research and Other Issues

Feedback from Email Letter Sent to Delaware Medical, Midwifery, Nursing and Perinatal Professional Associations and Organizations

On May 16 an email letter (attached) was sent to Delaware medical, midwifery, nursing and perinatal professional associations and organizations* to ask for input on the following topics related to standards:

- screening criteria for acceptance for out-of-hospital midwife care
- maternal/fetal/neonatal circumstances requiring collaboration or transfer
- suggestions for improved professional collaboration and support among all birth professionals
- any additional standards recommendation that your organization considers important

Organizations:

American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP)
American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP)
American College of Emergency Physicians (ACEP)
American College of Nurse-Midwives (ACNM)
American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG)
The Association of Women's Health, Obstetric and Neonatal Nurses (AWHONN)
Delaware Association of Midwives (DAM)
Delaware Healthy Mother Infant Consortium (DHMIC)
Delaware Nurses' Association (DNA)
Medical Society of Delaware (MSD)
Perinatal Cooperative

Feedback was received solely from Subcommittee member Susan DiNatale. Ms. DiNatale serves as the representative of Delaware Association of Midwives. Items received via email:

- Best Practice Guidelines: Transfer from Planned Home Birth to Hospital (homebirthsummit.org). (Attached.)
- Development and Validation of a National Data Registry for Midwife-Led Births: The Midwives Alliance of North America Statistics Project 2.0 Dataset. (ACNM)
- Critique of a meta-analysis by Wax and colleagues which has claimed there is a three-times greater risk of neonatal death among babies without congenital anomalies planned to be born at home. <http://www.scribd.com/doc/34065092>
- Born in the USA. Exceptionalism in Maternity Care Organizations among High-Income Countries. <http://www.socresonline.org.uk/14/1/5.html>
- Home Births Increase to 37 year high
<http://www.livescience.com/43829-home-births-increase.html>

These items were distributed to subcommittee members at the meeting, but were not discussed.

Midwifery PowerPoint Presentation for Medical Community

No further updates on "Midwifery & the Medical Community: Building Trust to Improve Outcomes" as Sarah Culver unable to attend the meeting.

IV. Prioritization of Issues / Plans for Moving Forward – Action Steps

The Subcommittee expressed interest in continuing to meet to address much-needed relationship building issues between midwifery home birth and medical communities whether or not midwifery legislation passed this Legislative Session. It was noted there was work to be done including gathering data of value from Washington and Virginia.

There was interest in creating a summary report of the subcommittee's work thus far based on summary notes.

It was noted that summary notes for the April 21 and May 13 meeting had yet to be approved. These notes were subsequently approved unanimously with one abstention.

V. Schedule Next Meeting

Members in attendance agreed that the **next meeting will be held on Monday, August 18 6-8 pm**, at the same location, DPH Offices, Large Training Room, Edgehill Shopping Center, Dover.

VI. Public Comment

There was productive discussion with the public attendees integrated within the meeting.

Public Attendance (elective sign-in): Shannon Burdeshaw, Garrett Colmorgen, MD Maternal-Fetal Medicine, Co-Chair, Policy & Regulation Subcommittee; Andrew Greeley; Yvonne Steele, Lobbyist; and Karen Webster.

VII. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at approximately 8:15 p.m.