



Direct-Entry Midwifery Stakeholders Committee Relationship-Standards Subcommittee Report

TO: Karyl Rattay, MD, MS, Director, Delaware Division of Public Health
Midwifery Stakeholders / Steering Committee

FROM: Relationship-Standards Midwifery Subcommittee Co-Chairs

Matthew Heiger

Janice Tildon-Burton

On behalf of the Subcommittee

SUBJECT: Report of the Midwifery Relationship-Standards Subcommittee

DATE: October 10, 2014

MEMBERS: Sarah Culver, MA, Delaware Families for Safe Birth

Susan DiNatale, CPM

Dorinda Dove, CNM, The Birth Center of Delaware

Sandra Elliott, CNM, University of Delaware Faculty

Nancy Fan, MD, Medical Society of Delaware

Mary Lou Gavin, MD, AAP¹, DE Chapter

Matthew Heiger, Delaware Families for Safe Birth

Joan Greeley, MSC, CNS, Consumer

Wendy Mathews, Student Midwife

Steve Newton, PhD, Delaware State University Faculty

Janice Tildon-Burton, MD, ACOG², Delaware Chapter

Kristin Bennett, MSN, RN, Nursing Director, DPH (Ex-Officio)

¹ American Academy of Pediatrics

² American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists

BACKGROUND: Public Direct-Entry Midwifery Stakeholders' Meetings were held by the Division of Public Health on the evenings of September 26, 2013 at Providence Creek School in Clayton and November 21, 2013 at Delaware State University in Dover.

Meeting Assumptions:

- All respect the right of women and families to make medically informed decisions about delivery.
- All seek to assure safe, high quality care for mother and infant.
- All support the practice of midwifery within an integrated and regulated health system including ready access to physician consultation and safe and timely transport to a hospital as needed.

In order to better focus on solutions co-chairs for two Subcommittees: 1) Policy & Regulatory Issues and 2) Standards of Care/Relationship Building between the Midwife and Physician were identified and announced at the November 21, 2013 meeting. Subcommittees were subsequently formed with balanced representation from the home birth, midwifery, medical, nursing and legal communities.

CHARGE: The Subcommittee on Relationship-Standards Issues had the following charge: to make recommendations on best practices for collaboration between the non-nurse/direct entry midwife and physician communities which promote safe standards of care.

LEADERSHIP: The Midwifery Subcommittee on Relationships-Standards, as it has come to be known, was led by co-chairs Dr. Janice Tildon-Burton, American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, Delaware Chapter and Mr. Matthew Heiger, Delawareans for Safe Births, Consumer.

MEETINGS: Public subcommittee meetings were held on the evenings of March 27, April 21, May 13, June 4, August 18 and October 6, 2014 at the Division of Public Health Edgehill Shopping Center Offices in Dover.

PUBLIC ATTENDANCE: Public attendance ranged from 3 to 11 per subcommittee meeting with sign-in optional, but required for public comment. Most public comment was made in respectful discussion and comment within the meetings.

INPUT: The subcommittee requested input from the following 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

DISCUSSION: Summary notes from each subcommittee meeting are available (and will be attached to this report.)

CONSENSUS: In working toward consensus, few votes were taken at meetings. The Division of Public Health did not take a position on the Subcommittee's discussions and will review this Report once complete.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Utilize Home Birth and Midwifery Standards of Care / Best Practices already established by other states (e.g., Washington and Virginia) and professional organizations listed below as guidelines for organizations involved in setting standards of practice in Delaware

- American Academy of Pediatrics: Guidelines for Care of Infant in Planned Home Births, 2013. <http://pediatrics.aappublications.org/content/131/5/1016.full.pdf+html>
- American College of Nurse-Midwives: ACNM Standards for the Practice of Midwifery, September, 2011.

<http://www.midwife.org/ACNM/files/ACNMLibraryData/UPLOADFILENAME/00000000051/Standards for Practice of Midwifery Sept 2011.pdf>

- American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologist (ACOG): Planned Home Birth, February, 2011. http://www.acog.org/Resources_And_Publications/Committee_Opinions/Committee_on_Obstetric_Practice/Planned_Home_Birth
- Home Birth Summit, Best Practice Guidelines: Transfer from Planned Home Birth to Hospital (homebirthsummit.org). http://www.homebirthsummit.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/03/HomeBirthSummit_BestPracticeTransferGuidelines.pdf

- International Congress of Midwives (ICM)

ICM Global Standards for Midwifery Education, (2010) Amended 2013.

http://www.internationalmidwives.org/assets/uploads/documents/CoreDocuments/ICM%20Standards%20Guidelines_ammended2013.pdf

ICM Essential Competencies for Basic Midwifery Practice (2010) Amended 2013.

<http://www.internationalmidwives.org/assets/uploads/documents/CoreDocuments/ICM%20Essential%20Competencies%20for%20Basic%20Midwifery%20Practice%202010,%20revised%202013.pdf>

- MANA Core Competencies (Scope of Practice): <http://www.mana.org/about-us/core-competencies> (NARM uses MANA standards & scope for the CPM certification/NARM refers to MANA on these.)
- Midwives Alliance of North America (MANA) / Standards & Qualifications of Practice: <http://www.mana.org/about-us/standards-and-qualifications>
- North American Registry of Midwives (NARM) Practice Guidelines <http://narm.org/faq/cpm-practice-guidelines/>
- The Birth Center of Delaware. Screening Protocols (pp15-16) from *The Birth Center: Holistic Women's Health Care Protocols* – Updated 11/19/13.

2. Promote mutual understanding between Delaware's Home Birth/Midwifery, Hospital/Birth Center, Medical and Nursing Communities and other health professional through shared training and continuing education.

The Subcommittee believes it is essential to involve the chairpersons of hospital Obstetrical, Pediatric and Nursing Departments in further midwifery efforts.

Subcommittee member Sarah Culver developed a PowerPoint presentation entitled "Midwifery & the Medical Community: Building Trust to Improve Outcomes". Co-Chairs and Subcommittee members express appreciation for Sarah's tremendous effort in creating this informative presentation. Subcommittee members offered feedback along the way. The presentation is still a work in progress – and remains in draft form at this time.

CONCLUSION: Despite the lack of success of the direct-entry midwifery legislation this session the Subcommittee members are interested in continuing to work to address standards of care and, in particular, the relationship building issues between the midwifery - home birth and medical communities. The Subcommittee advocates use of its recommendations in future development of direct-entry midwifery legislation and practice in Delaware.

Attachments: Summary Notes from Meetings (March, 27, April 21, May 13, June 4, Aug 18 and October 6, 2014)

Midwifery & the Medical Community Building Trust to Improve Outcomes PowerPoint (Draft in Progress)

The Birth Center of Delaware Screening Protocols