

# *Did you know about Midwives in Michigan?*

**Midwives have delivered babies in their communities since the earliest days of Michigan's history.**

**Current studies and reports find out-of-hospital birth with a trained midwife to be as safe or safer than hospital birth for healthy women experiencing a normal pregnancy, and in conclusion, call for increased access to midwives:**

- The British Medical Journal: “Planned home birth for low risk women in North America using Certified Professional Midwives was associated with lower rates of medical intervention but similar intrapartum and neonatal mortality to that of low risk hospital births in the United States.” - *Outcomes of Planned Home Births with Certified Professional Midwives: Large Prospective Study in North America. BMJ 2005;330:1416*
- The Milbank Report: “...the physiologic approach to childbirth, which has most consistently been provided by midwives, has succeeded remarkably well in achieving positive outcomes for mothers and babies in diverse contexts.” - *Evidence-Based Maternity Care: What It Is and What It Can Achieve. Milbank Memorial Fund, 2008.*
- Canadian Research: “Women who planned a home birth had a significantly lower risk of obstetric interventions and adverse outcomes...” -*Canadian Medical Association Journal, August 2009*
- The Cochrane Review: “All women should be offered midwife-led models of care and women should be encouraged to ask for this option.” -*Cochrane Library, 2008, Issue 4*
- Amnesty International: “Federal and state governments should revise the current legal restrictions on appropriately trained and qualified midwives. Public and private insurance should include payment for services that women may choose through qualified midwives or birth centers.” – *Deadly Delivery, The Maternal Health Care Crisis in the US. Amnesty International Publications, 2010*

**27 other states license Certified Professional Midwives attending out-of-hospital birth.**

**Midwives save these states money.**

- Washington state statistics: “...cost savings of delivery with a midwife - for both public and private insurance - amounted to \$2.7 million in a two-year program. The independent analysis found that savings to the state's Medicaid system alone amounted to almost a half-million dollars.” – *Midwifery Licensure and Discipline Program in Washington State: Economic Costs and Benefits, Health Management Associates, Oct. 2007*
- Economists predict savings: Increasing use of Certified Professional Midwives and of out-of-hospital maternity care by less than 10% would result in savings of \$9.1 billion annually, while improving outcomes. – David Anderson, PHD, Notes on the Economics of Out-of-Hospital Maternity Care, 2009

*“Midwifery and birth are nonpartisan issues, issues on which everyone, Democrats and Republicans, liberals and conservatives, pro-choice and pro-life, can find common ground.”*

Michigan's Mothers and Babies  
deserve Licensed Midwives!  
Please support licensure for  
Certified Professional Midwives!

QuickTime and a  
decompressor  
are needed to see this picture.

