

## What do Public Health Agencies have to say about Midwifery in the US?

### The Pew Health Professions Commission:

- It is the finding and vision of the Taskforce that **the midwifery model of care is an essential element of comprehensive health care for women and their families that should be embraced by, and incorporated into, the health care system and made available to all women.**

### The American Public Health Association states the following:

- The American Public Health Association (APHA) takes a position in support of the expansion of midwifery as a key strategy to improving access to care for childbearing families for the purpose of increasing their health care options and thereby to the subsequent improvement of birth outcomes.
- Supports efforts to increase access to out-of-hospital maternity care services and increase the range of quality maternity care choices available to consumers, through recognition that legally-regulated and nationally certified direct-entry midwives can serve clients desiring safe, planned, out-of-hospital maternity care services, and further:
- Recognizing that out-of-hospital settings have the potential for reducing the costs of maternity care.
- Recognizing the evidence that births to healthy mothers, who are not considered at medical risk after comprehensive screening by trained professionals, can occur safely in various settings, including out-of-hospital birth centers and homes.
- Recognizing evidence that access to quality maternity caregivers remains an important issue, particularly for underserved urban and rural communities; which may be addressed through out-of-hospital maternity services in some communities.

## REFERENCES

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