



Annual Business Meeting of Members

October 28, 2025 | Virtual

Community Agreements

- We create a learning environment of trust and vulnerability
- We prioritize connection and practice awareness
- We expect to make mistakes, expect to repair and grow
- We balance accountability and compassion
- We speak from our own experience
- We maintain curiosity
- We do not tolerate hate, racism, transphobia, fatphobia, or any other form of oppression
- We create space for others
- We recognize and celebrate intersecting identities
- We understand that “change is constant” (adrienne maree brown)

AABC Board of Directors - OFFICERS



President

Trinisha Williams
MPH, CM, LCCE, LC



Vice President

Cheryl Bradshaw
BSN, RN, IBCLC



Vice President

Rebeckah Orton
BS, RN



Vice President

Suzan Ulrich
DrPH, CNM, FACNM



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Talita Oseguera
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Sarah Sanders
PhD, MPH

AABC Board of Directors



Triana Boggs
MSN, CNM, APRN



Michelle Gabriel-Caldwell
PhD, CD, CBE, PPD, CLE



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BA



Ashley Jones
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Ebony Marcelle
DNP, CNM, FACNM

AABC Board of Directors



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DNP, CNM



Michelle Rhude
MSN, CNM



Heather Skanes
MD



Mary Sommers
MPS, CPM, IBCLC



Venus Standard
MSN, CNM, LCCE, LMT

AABC Board of Directors - Retiring



Madi Grimes
CDM, CPM



Jill Alliman
DNP, CNM, FACNM



Committee Chairs



Trinisha Williams
MPH, CM, LCCE, LC
Executive Committee



Madi Grimes
CDM, CPM
Audit Committee
Membership/PR Committee



Michelle Rhude
MSN, CNM
Bylaws Committee
Nominating Committee
Standards Committee



Triana Boggs
MSN, CNM
Diversity + Inclusion Committee



Amy Goh
PhD, MSN, MPhil, CNM
Diversity + Inclusion Committee



Cheryl Bradshaw
RN, BSN, IBCLC
Education Committee
Program Committee



Sarah Sanders
PhD, MPH
Finance Committee



Jill Alliman
DNP, CNM, FACNM
Government Affairs Committee

Committee Chairs



Brianna Bennett
MBA
HSBC Workshops Committee



Desiree LeFave
CPM
Industry Relations Committee



Laura Wiegand
MBA
Industry Relations Committee



Amy Johnson-Grass
ND, LN, LM, CPM
International Committee



Nancy Niemczyk
PhD, CNM
Research Committee

Roll Call of Members

- Establishing a quorum



Adoption of the Agenda

- AABC Reports
 - President
 - Executive Director
 - Committees
 - Chapters
- Updates
 - AABC Foundation
 - Commission for the Accreditation of Birth Centers
- Unfinished Business
- New Business



REPORTS

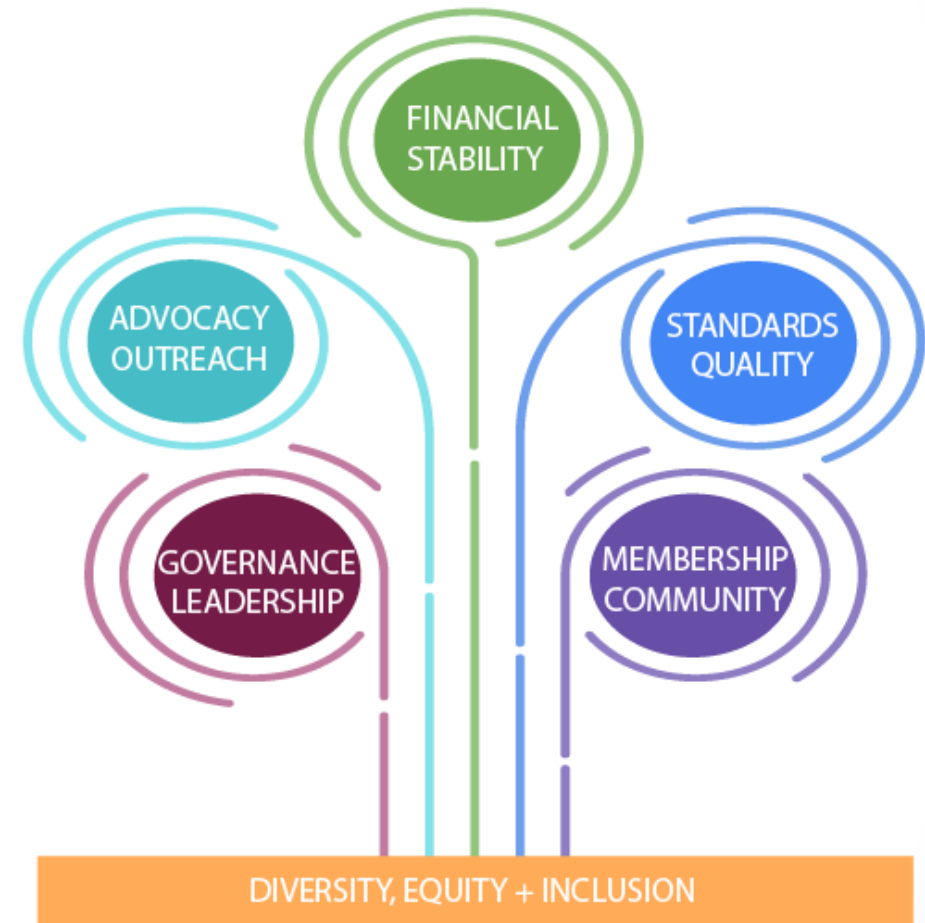
President



Trinisha Williams
President

Strategic Priorities

- Diversity Equity + Inclusion
- Establish New “US”
- Establish a Clear Branding Position
- Review + Strengthen Membership Model
- Birth Center Advocacy



2025 Focus

- Diversity, Equity + Inclusion
- Reimbursement
- Advocacy + Collaboration
- Leverage/Strengthen Use of PDR
- Branding Position



Executive Director



Kate Bauer
Executive Director



AABC Perinatal Data Registry™

Largest national registry for midwifery-led birth

New Platform Launch!

Highlights of New PDR Platform

Powerful Reporting & Analytics

- Robust practice-level and national-level dashboards
- Real-time benchmarking
- Quick reporting

Enhanced User Experience

- Single Sign-On
- User-friendly features
- Filterable lists
- New surveys

Seamless Integration & Efficiency

- Automated workflow
- Easily export data
- Agile development

Learn more!



Collaboration

- NRP and Midwives
- Beloved Birth 50 by 50
- ULab Facility Index
- Coalitions – Midwifery Education Policy Network, Maternal and Child Health Appropriations Alliance
- Congressional Briefing with ACNM, NACPM, BCE and PICBM
- Action Alerts – federal midwifery bills, Title X funding freeze
- Request for Executive Order
- Exhibits at the National Council of State Legislatures and American College of Nurse-Midwives conferences

Resources & Position Statements

- Price Transparency Data Reports – Added report for Professional Fees
- Position Statement on Advanced Birth Centers
- Position Statement on Use of AI for Auditing Claims
- Legal Consultation on Birth Centers in Federal Law

Education Offerings

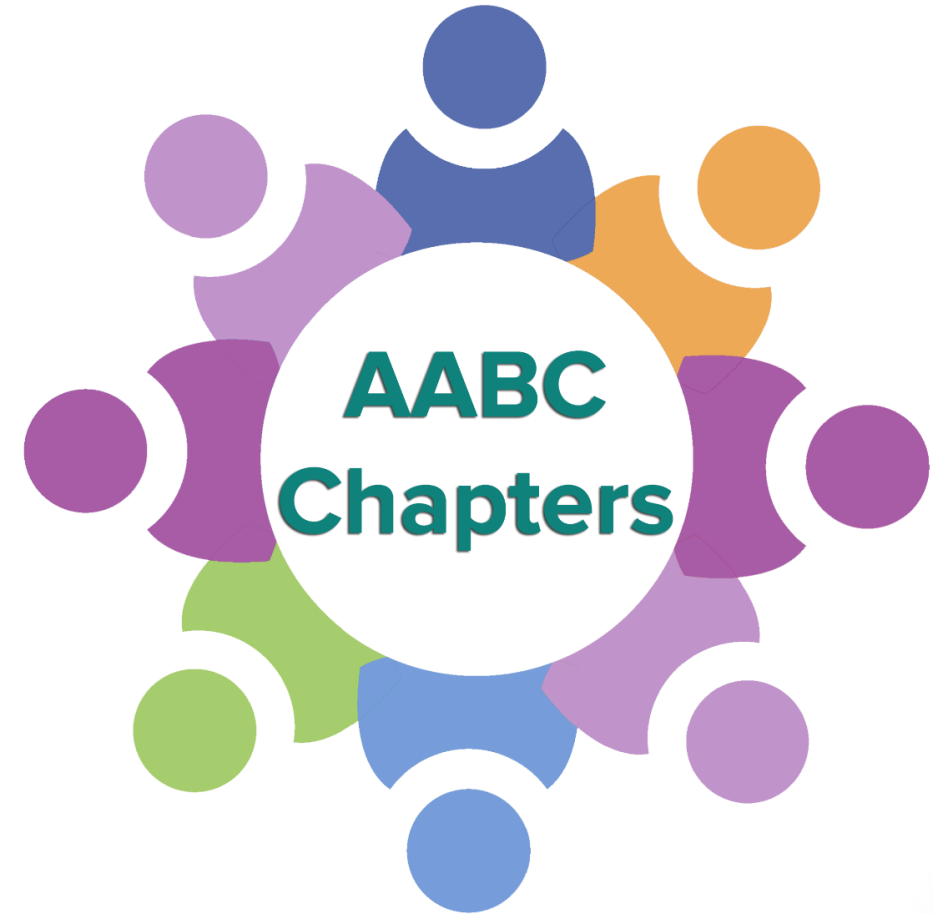
- Developing AABC Academy for a lifecycle of learning
- Community-Based Birth Assistant Training Task Force
- Task force to reimagine the Birth Institute
- Webinar Wednesdays
- IRC Office Hours
- Learning Collaborative for Birth Center Sustainability
 - Course and monthly office hours
- How to Start a Birth Center Workshop
 - Course and bi-weekly office hours/curbside consulting

Grant Funding

- Skyline Foundation – operational support
- Pritzker Foundation – work with other organizations to increase access to the midwifery model of care.

AABC Chapters

- Supporting existing chapters
- Assisting members who want to form chapters
- 8 Chapters
- 4 chapters in development





SCAN ME

VOLUNTEER!

Join an AABC Committee

Meet the AABC Staff



Kate Bauer
Executive Director



Lisa Recke
Office Manager/Bookkeeper



Jennifer Stapleton
PDR Manager



Dallas LaCross
Membership Coordinator



Cathy Duffy
Administrative Assistant



Ericka Cameron
AABCF Development Coordinator

Finance Committee



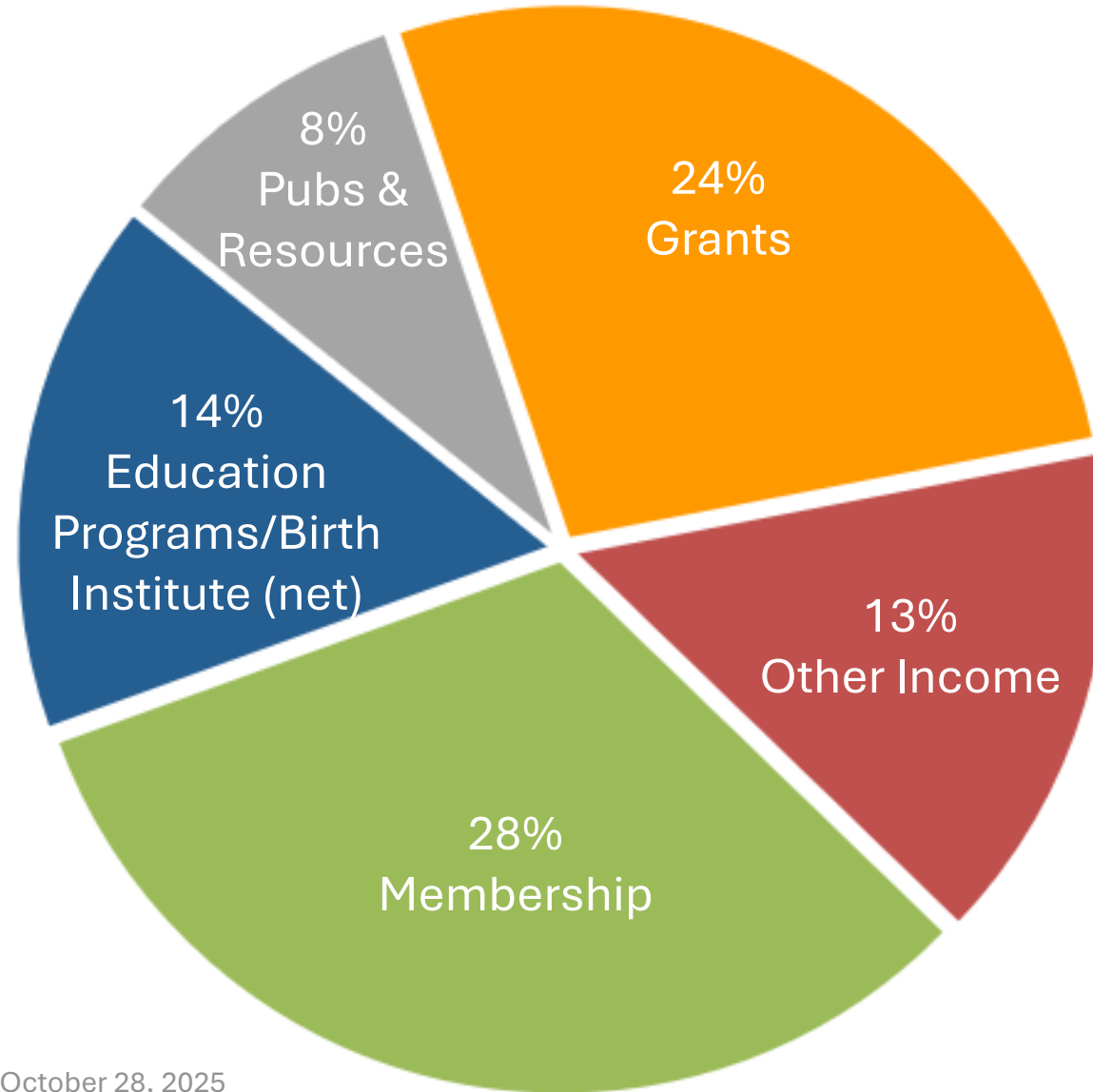
Sarah Sanders
Treasurer

2024 Income/Expense

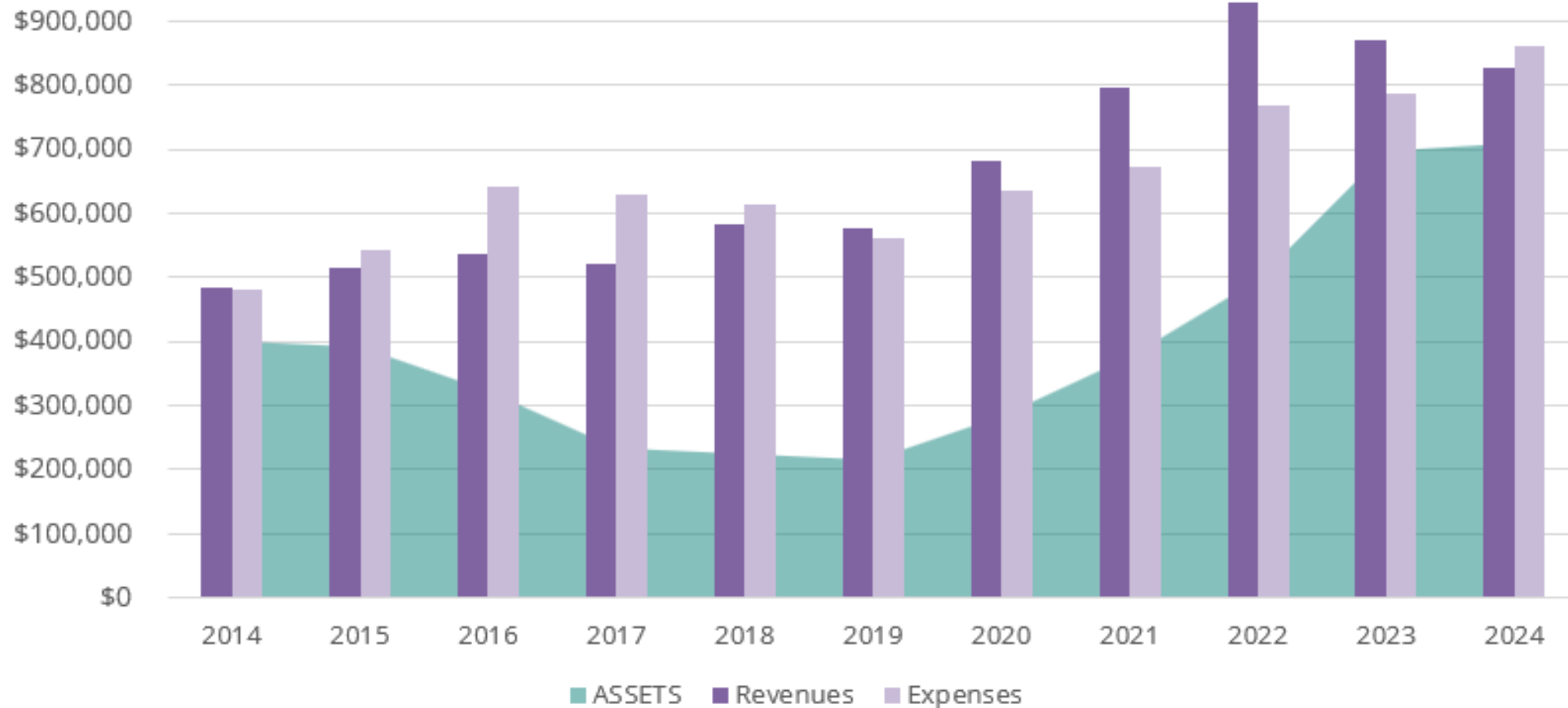
REVENUES	2024 ACTUAL
Publications / Resources	\$62,075
AABC Birth Institute	154,242
Education Programs	108,142
Membership	219,404
AABCF Management	72,740
Grants	184,600
Investments	24,109
Other Income	6,732
TOTAL REVENUES	\$832,044

EXPENSES	2024 ACTUAL
Personnel	\$412,605
Contracted Services	63,114
Operational Expenses	71,662
Publications/Resources	43,938
Research/PDR	64,955
Diversity + Inclusion	16,687
AABC Birth Institute	113,917
Education Programs	47,796
Travel/Meeting	27,314
Bad Debt	466
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$862,454

Revenue Sources



Assets, Revenue & Expense History



Diversity + Inclusion Committee



Triana Boggs
Committee Co-Chair



Amy Goh
Committee Co-Chair



D+I Committee

- Scholarships - 16 awarded in 2025
 - 10 Birth Institute
 - 3 How to Start a Birth Center Workshop
 - 1 online, 1 in-person Learning Collaborative for Birth Center Sustainability
- Help Reimagine AABC Birth Institute Task Force
- Affinity Circles
 - Members of the Global Majority
 - LGBTQIA+
 - White Allies
 - LGBTQ+ Allies
- Equity Toolkit



Government Affairs Committee



Jill Alliman
Committee Chair

Government Affairs Committee

- Federal Legislation—3 Midwifery Bills introduced this Congress. AABC federal consultant Debbie Jessup on the Hill weekly. Senate Briefing held in July. Members of GAC's active role.
- State Legislation—3 states removed Certificate of Need requirement for birth centers this year with AABC's support.



Government Affairs Committee

- AABC working in coalition to grow impact-Meeting every 2 weeks with Birth Center Equity, NACPM, Policy Institute for Community Birth and Midwifery, ACNM. Larger coalitions in process.
- Come join this exciting work!



HSBC Workshops Committee



Brianna Bennett
Committee Chair

HSBC Workshops Committee



- 1 in-person workshop in 2025
 - Portland, Oregon in October
- Continue to offer online course
- Faculty hold bi-weekly office hours for participants and DBC/BC members
- Completed update to the curriculum
- Adding content specific for Alongside Midwifery Units (AMUs)

Industry Relations Committee



Desiree LeFave
Committee Co-Chair



Laura Wiegand
Committee Co-Chair

Industry Relations Committee

- Volunteers for IRC continues to grow with lots of support and engagement with membership in 2025
- Main focus continues to be Birth Center Sustainability and we have added the understanding of the law
- Turquoise platform was renegotiated for the year with access for another year; to date 74 Birth Centers have purchased their data
 - New in 2025 – offering a professional fees report, in addition to facility fees
- Learning Collaborative for Birth Center Sustainability
 - 10 workshops have been taught to date
 - 90 birth centers have taken the class, 132 attendees
 - New in 2025 - updated format with new faculty

Industry Relations Committee

- Payors & Insurances with parity contracts: BCBS, Medicaid, Medicaid MCO/CCO, 1st Choice, Aetna, Christian Health Care Ministries, Health Partners, UHC, Multi Plan, First Health, and Kaiser
- States with parity contracts: AK, AZ, CO, FL, GA, ID, IL, IN, MA, MN, NC, NJ, NM, NV, NY, OH, OR, PA, SC, TX, VA, WA, & WY
- IRC continues to host additional monthly LCBCS meetings for all previous attendees, to foster ongoing support
- We are still developing supplementary classes
- National and State level communications continue with several Payors (BCBSA, BCBS, CHM, UHC, Medicaid, CMS/TMaH)
- Continued encouragement of state collaboration among Birth Centers (while still honoring anti-trust)

Industry Relations Committee

- States have come together to make AABC state chapters
- Continued research, troubleshooting, and education; why Birth Centers are NOT being paid; Code sets definitions, Taxonomy codes, Billing processes and Diagnosis Related Groups
- Developed and implemented the Power to Protect packet for Insurance Commissioners and Legislators
- Continuing to gain support from other entities (CABC, ACNM, NARM, MOD etc)
- Continued development of standards in birth center billing
- Provided testimony (and will continue to provide) to AMA in regard to deleting global obstetric codes, effective 1/1/2027
- Clarity on legal opinions for the ACA and other laws that pertain to Birth Center

Industry Relations Committee

Clarity on legal opinions for the ACA and other laws that pertain to Birth Centers:

- **Affordable Care Act (ACA) 2301** - Requires state Medicaid agencies to cover freestanding birth center services and ensure separate payments to both the facility and licensed providers.
- **Harkin Non-Discrimination Clause (ACA §2706(a))** - Prohibits discrimination by private health plans against providers acting within the scope of their license or certification under state law.
- **Social Security Act (SSA)** - This act indicates the federal government has recognized birth centers as valid, Medicaid-covered service sites. States' Medicaid (MCO & CCO) cannot arbitrarily deny reimbursement if the services meet federal criteria.
- **No Surprises Act (2020)** - This act implies parity in payment methodology across settings, reinforcing that birth centers should not be reimbursed arbitrarily lower than equivalent hospital services.
- **Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1985, 81 FR 27853** - This act indicates Federal policy has long supported autonomous reimbursement for non-physician providers like midwives — reinforcing that alternative birth settings like birth centers should receive equivalent reimbursement.

International Committee



Amy Johnson-Grass
Committee Chair

International Committee

- Primary project in 2025 was preparing for ICM 2026 + working on developing an International Midwifery Center Development Questionnaire/Survey.
 - Is an extension of the feedback received at 2023 ICM.
 - Serves as a tool for AABC consultants/international committee to understand where a country/individual/organization is at when discussing opening a birth center/midwifery center.
 - Further positions AABC as the authority for birth centers and birth center standards.

International Committee

Preparation for 2026 ICM

- 2 abstracts accepted for podium presentations
 - ✓ Strengthening the Midwifery-Led Birth Center Movement: Lessons from AABC's 40-Year Journey
 - ✓ Exploring Global Interest in Midwifery-Led Birth Centers: A Preliminary Inquiry and Next Steps
- Preparing to exhibit possibly
- Pre-conference conversations with key stakeholders
- Schedule meetings with key stakeholders to happen at ICM

Continue to position AABC as the authority for birth centers and birth center standards.

Membership Committee



Madi Grimes
Committee Chair

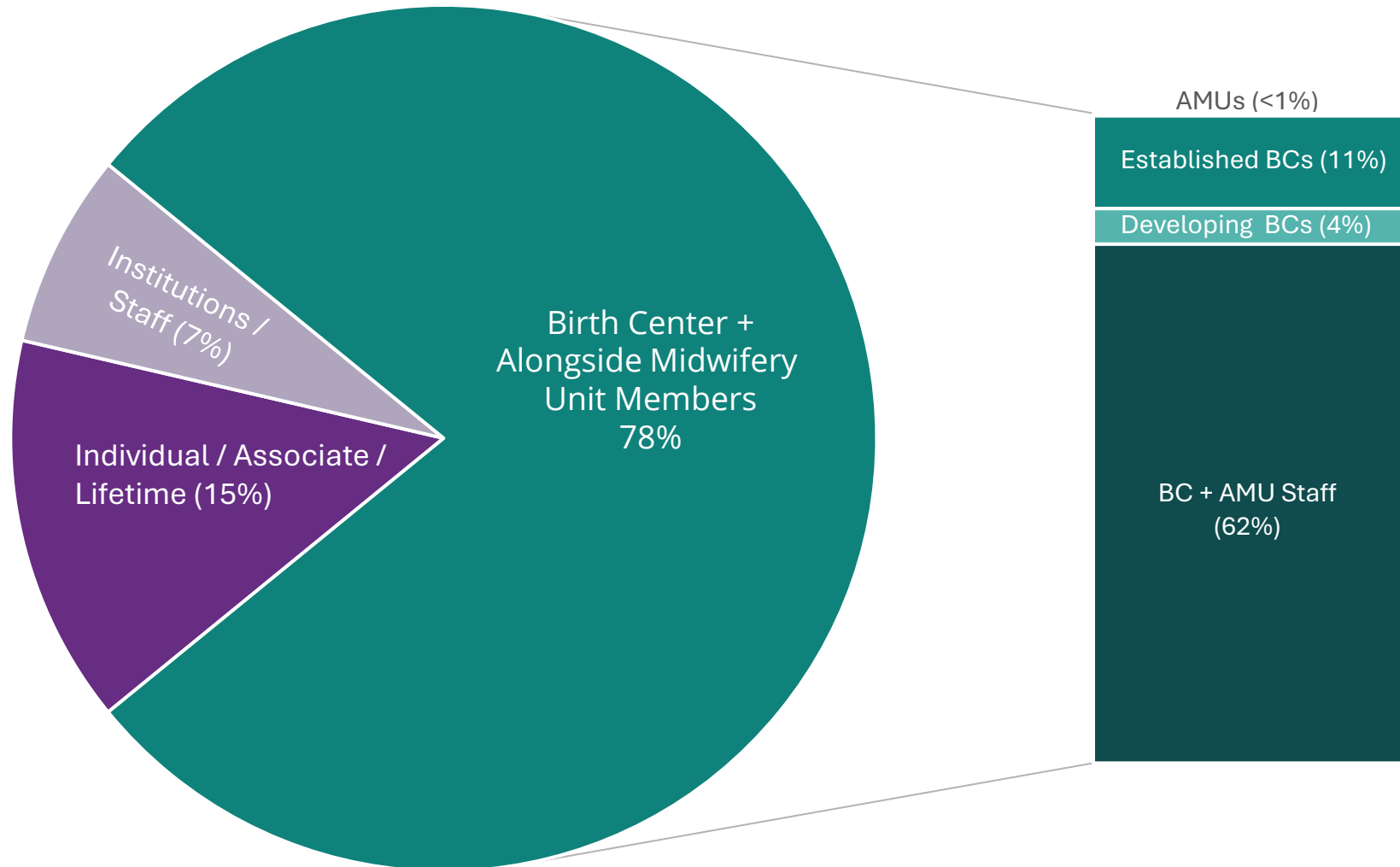
Membership Committee

- Primary Focus: Membership Survey.
 - This is a critical first step to allow a review of how members value member benefits and lays the foundation for future work with a membership consultant in the coming year.
 - If you have not yet completed this survey, please do so!
- Additionally, we have worked to streamline information on member benefits through email communications and on the website
- Coming Next: Increasing benefits awareness with more presence on social media, creating visual or video testimonials about the benefit of AABC membership, creating video posts explaining white papers to share with birth center stakeholders and consumers

Take the Member Survey



AABC Members



Nominating Committee



Michelle Rhude
Committee Chair

2025 Elections

- AABC held elections for the AABC Board of Directors
 - 4 Directors
 - 1 Alternate Director

Elected by the Membership

- **Director: Cheryl Bradshaw**, BSN, RN, IBCLC – The Midwife Center (Pittsburgh, PA)
- **Director: Claudia Jennings**, BA – Primary Maternity Care (Minneapolis, MN)
- **Director: Ashley Jones**, MSM, LM, CPM – True North Birth Center (Poulsbo, WA)
- **Director: Suzan Ulrich**, DrPH, CNM, FACNM– George Washington University (Ripley, NY)
- **Alternate Director: Michelle Gabriel-Caldwell**, PhD, CD, CBE, PPD, CLE – Baby, Please Birth Services and The Birth Center of New Jersey (Union, NJ)

Take a Leadership Role in 2026



Is it your turn?

We will be electing

- President-Elect
- 4 Directors
- 1 Alternate Director

Program Committee



Cheryl Bradshaw
Committee Co-Chair



Michele Nizza
Committee Co-Chair

Program Committee

2025 AABC Birth Institute – Portland, OR

- Attendees – 187 (3rd biggest yet!)
- Increased overall score in satisfaction
- Value in networking and community building
- Restoration room charged our batteries to do this work



2025 AABC Birth Institute

NAVIGATING THE FUTURE:
Birth Centers as Empowered Changemakers

September 11-14, 2025 | Portland, Oregon

Planning 2026

- Keynote speakers
- Pre-Conference workshops
- Sessions in clinical, admin, timely topics
- Networking, networking, networking
- Possible changes to clinical offerings by offering engaging activities
- Looking for committee members who are enthusiastic about growing our conference and bringing fresh and new ideas to the table.



Research Committee



Nancy Niemczyk
Committee Chair

Research Committee

- Focus on transition to new platform
- 4 Scientific Data Requests
- PDR Research Published
 - Goh, A.H., Kapoor, D.A., Nguyen, A., Soman, D., Jolles, D.R. (2025). Characteristics and outcomes among Asian birthing people in the American Association of Birth Centers Perinatal Data Registry. Birth. <https://doi.org/10.1111/birt.12923>

Standards Committee

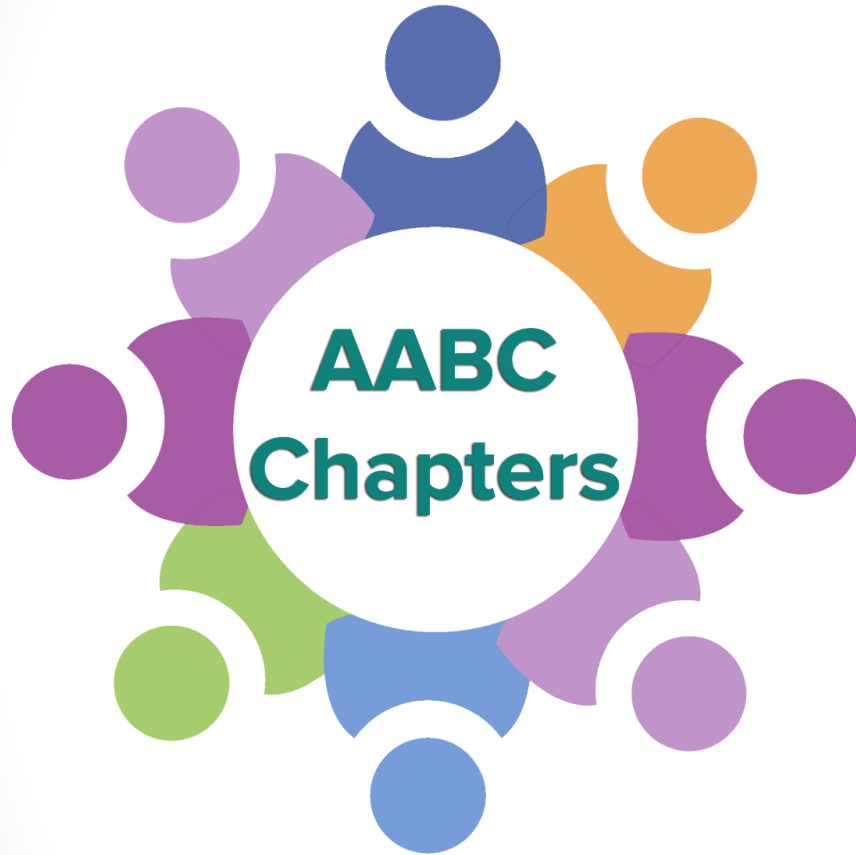


Michelle Rhude
Committee Chair

Standards Committee Highlights

- Proposed revisions to Standards for Birth Centers
 - Reflect a commitment to inclusivity and equity, guided by the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Committee's selection of APA Inclusive Language Guidelines.
 - Expands training program criteria for CPR and NRP to include all programs that meet international guidelines.
- Review and revision to date have included
 - Feedback from Members and CABC
 - Standards Committee review of feedback/changes
 - Consultation with D+I Committee
 - Board of Directors Review
- Next Steps
 - Convene external stakeholders for feedback
 - Standards Committee review of feedback/changes
 - Board approval
 - Member ratification

CHAPTER UPDATES



- Arizona
- California
- Colorado
- Minnesota
- New York
- Pennsylvania
- Texas
- Washington

Arizona Chapter



Shelley McGrew
Arizona Chapter Interim President

Arizona State Chapter

- Held Officer Elections
- Plans Moving Forward
 - Build engagement
 - Attend Arizona ACNM & Arizona Association of Midwives Collaborative Summit in January
 - Meet with Arizona Perinatal Trust Board

California State Chapter



Bethany Sasaki
California Chapter President

California State Chapter

- California has been losing birth centers rapidly over the last 5 years due to:
 - Dysfunctional licensing
 - Poor reimbursement
 - Workforce shortages
- In December 2024 TRICARE pulled facility contracts from all unlicensed birth centers nationally.
 - In CA, licensure is not required. There several barriers to licensure for birth centers in the state

California State Chapter

- In December 2024 TRICARE pulled facility contracts from all unlicensed birth centers nationally. Licensure barriers in CA:
 1. Building codes that mirror hospitals
 2. Requirements to participate in a statewide program that until recently barred CPMs from participating
 3. Limitation of 30 minute distance to a hospital with OB services
- DONE: In 2025 co-sponsored legislation to remove 2 and 3 above
- IN PROCESS: Negotiating with state on building regulations updates

Colorado State Chapter



Katie Johnson
Colorado Chapter President

Colorado State Chapter

- Focus on reimbursement
- Met with Colorado Division of Insurance
- Engaging with Medicaid as they develop alternative payment models (APM)
 - Value-based care models must recognize and reward birth centers for their role in reducing costs

Minnesota Chapter



Amy Johnson-Grass
Minnesota Chapter President

Minnesota State Chapter

- Worked to improve reimbursement rates for birth centers in the State of Minnesota
 - Hired a lobbyist to work on legislative changes for the 2025 session.
 - Worked directly with DHS on proposed bill language for improved reimbursement.
 - Made website for MN State Chapter.
 - Meet weekly to keep momentum on our projects.
 - Time at the Capitol, visiting legislators and representatives and testifying for our bill.

Minnesota State Chapter

- Our legislation passed!
- Bill language
 - Facility services provided by a birth center shall be paid at the lower of billed charges or 100 percent of the hospital facility fee **cost trended to current** for an uncomplicated vaginal birth as determined using the most recent calendar year for which complete claims data is available.
 - If a recipient is transported from a birth center to a hospital prior to the delivery, the payment for facility services to the birth center shall be the lower of billed charges or 100 percent of the hospital facility fee **cost trended to current** for an uncomplicated vaginal delivery as determined using the most recent calendar year for which complete claims data is available.

Minnesota State Chapter

- Facility services provided to a newborn by a birth center shall be paid the lower of billed charges or 100 percent of the average room and board cost for a hospital stay.
- Birth center providers must be reimbursed for the full range of maternity care services within their scope of practice, regardless of place of service.

New York State Chapter



Myla Flores
New York Chapter President

New York Birth Center Association (NYSBCA)

- Developed NYSBCA Position Statement: CABC Accreditation & Licensure, which upholds CABC as an expert in midwifery-led birth centers and clarifies licensure accessibility for midwifery-led birth centers in New York
- Connected with other stakeholder organizations including a newly formed Mobilize Maternal Health Coalition, led by NYSBCA President Myla Flores

Pennsylvania Chapter



Christine Haas
Pennsylvania Chapter President

Pennsylvania State Chapter

- Meeting monthly since chapter formed in 2024
- Focus continues to be increasing funding opportunities and reimbursement, especially with Medicaid
- Efforts have included:
 - Meeting with state representatives to discuss challenges to birth centers, especially low reimbursement rates
 - Submitted Right-to-Know request to better understand Medicaid's capitated payment rates. Information will support negotiations with MCOs towards payment equity.

Texas State Chapter



Joan Doglio Smith
Texas Chapter President

Texas State Chapter



Texas Chapter
at the AABC Birth Institute

Washington State Chapter



Ashley Jones
Washington Chapter President



- Birth Center Rules Adoption
 - Main focus is the use of CABC accreditation which opens access for VBAC in birth centers
- Passage of HB1824
 - Allows for CABC inspections in lieu of Department of Health inspections for CABC Accredited Birth Centers
- 2026 Plans
 - Medicaid and commercial insurance parity
 - Fee cap proviso for Birth Center license fees



Foundation Update

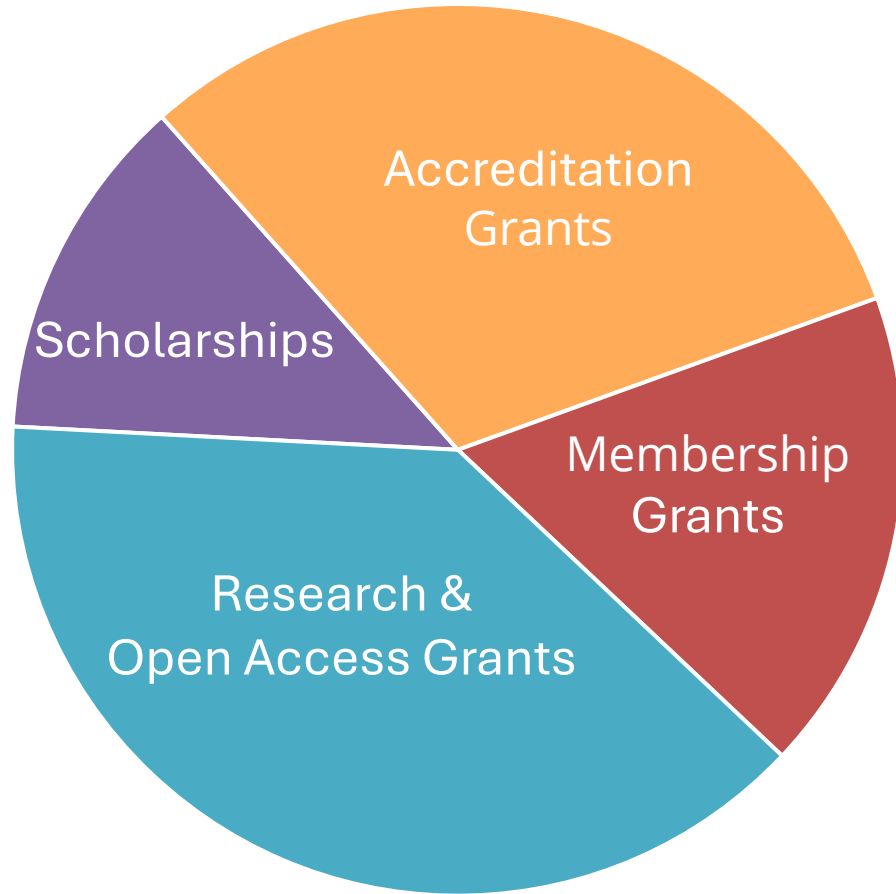
Grow more birth centers. Serve more families.

AABC Foundation Update



Brianna Bennett
AABC Foundation President

Funds at Work - 2024



- **\$6,495** in Scholarships
- **\$16,000** in Accreditation Grants
- **\$9,060** in Membership Grants
- **\$20,000** in Research & Open Access Grants

\$51,555 Awarded

Scholarships – Investing in People



"This experience has been life changing. I felt like I was in my community...and was even able to connect with someone where I will probably do my clinicals with her"

- Shanay Plater, 2025 Lisa Ross Recipient

- **Amy E Polk Scholarship**
 - Provides funding to attend an AABC How to Start a Birth Center Workshop
 - Awarded 5 scholarships in 2025
- **Lisa Ross Scholarship**
 - Provides funding to attend the annual AABC Birth Institute
 - Awarded 4 scholarships in 2025
- **AABC D+I Scholarship**
 - Provides funding to attend the annual AABC Birth Institute, AABC How to Start a Birth Center Workshop or AABC Community Birth Assistant Training
 - Contributed funding for 17 scholarships in 2025

Grants – Fueling Growth & Innovation

- Changemaker Accreditation Support Grants
 - Birth centers can apply for funding for up to full accreditation fee
 - 4 grants awarded YTD 2025
- Membership Support Grants
 - 15 grants awarded YTD 2025



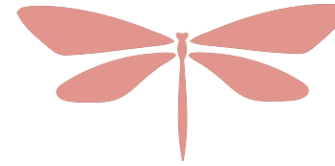
“We received a Membership Support Grant which allowed us to continue our membership and to be able to maintain it until today. The impact of our AABC membership has been immeasurable”

-Mamatoto Resource & Birth Centre

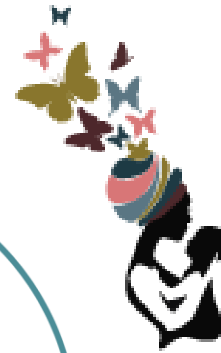
Fiscal Sponsorship



BOULDER
BIRTH



HOLISTIC
HEALTH



BIRTH IN COLOR
Midwifery, LLC



Research Grants

3 Grants Awarded in 2025

- Asian Birthing People's Experiences and Perceptions Around Birth Centers in the United States
- Outcomes of Freestanding Birth Center to Hospital Perinatal Transfers of Care in Arizona
- Midwife Led Birth Center & Viability of Future Research in Food as Prevention & Resilience in Pregnancy

The application period for research grants is now open
Submit your Letter of Intent by NOVEMBER 7th for consideration

Find more information at aabcfoundation.org/research-grants

Fundraising & Community Engagement



Get Involved

Volunteer with one of our committees or apply to join our Board of Trustees

Learn More:



Stay Informed

Follow AABC Foundation:

@AABCFoundation



Sign up for our newsletter:





Commission for the Accreditation of Birth Centers

Supporting Standards & Inspiring Excellence through Learning

CABC Update

CABC Update



**Commission for the
Accreditation of Birth Centers**
Supporting Standards & Inspiring Excellence through Learning

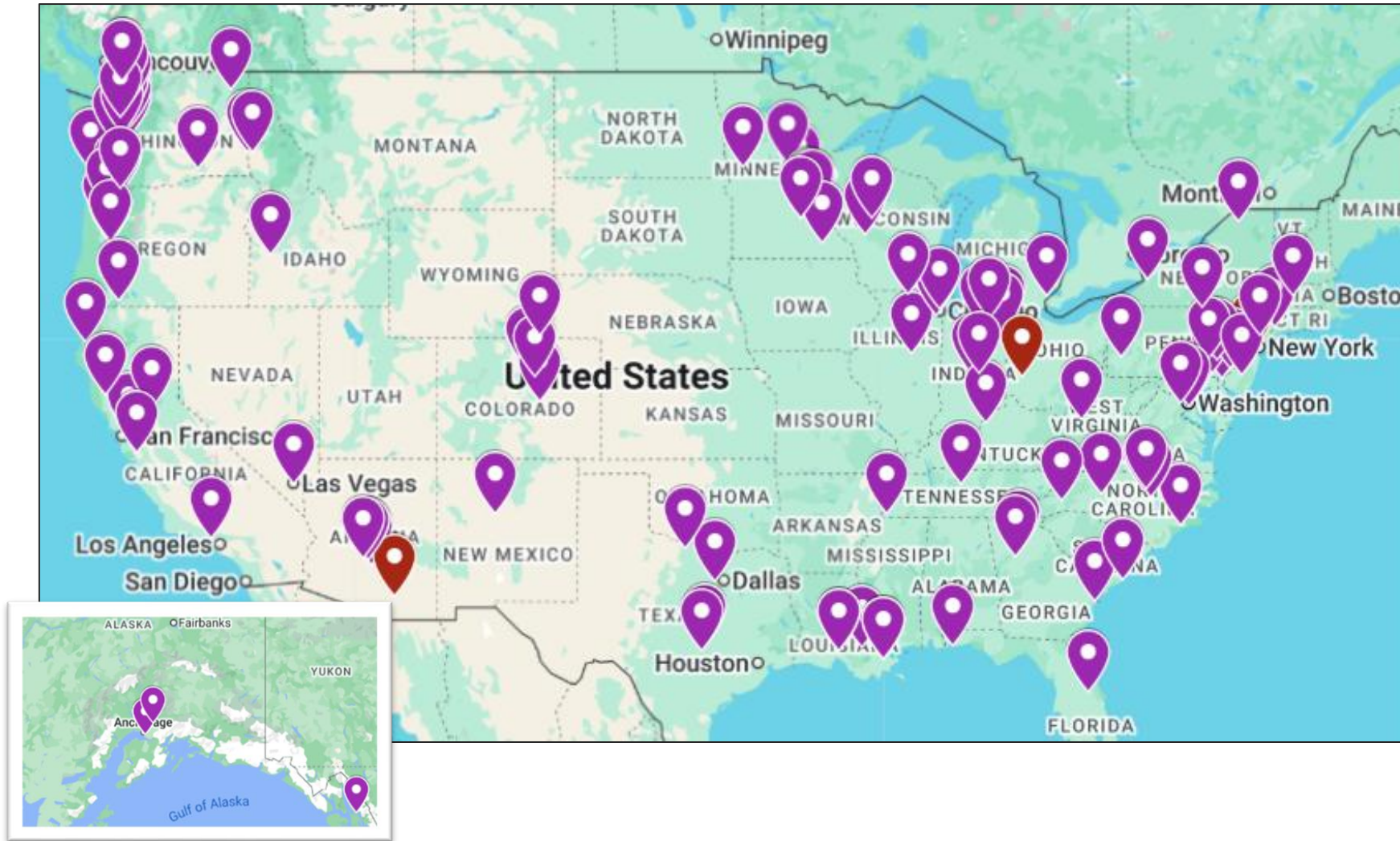


Michele DeAngelo
CABC Executive Director

109 CABC-Accredited Freestanding
Birth Centers & 4 Alongside Midwifery
Units in 32 States



**Commission for the
Accreditation of Birth Centers**
Supporting Standards & Inspiring Excellence through Learning



The Importance of Communication as a Root Cause in Sentinel Events



**Commission for the
Accreditation of Birth Centers**
Supporting Standards & Inspiring Excellence through Learning

Maria Petrie, MHIT, BSN – Chair (Outgoing)
Olga Ryan, RN, MSN - Staff
AABC Birth Institute, September 2025



**Commission for the
Accreditation of Birth Centers**
Supporting Standards & Inspiring Excellence through Learning

Introducing the Communications Bundle

- Institute for Healthcare Improvement defines a healthcare bundle as “Improving processes of care and patient outcomes by ensuring consistent application of best practices.”
- CABC intends the communications bundle to be a set of resources applied to a specific problem set to improve outcomes and reduce likelihood of communications issues as a root cause of sentinel events
- Lives on resource portal for accredited members – part of the value of accreditation



**Commission for the
Accreditation of Birth Centers**
Supporting Standards & Inspiring Excellence through Learning



Accreditation Success Sessions

**Join CABC Wednesday October 15th at
12pm ET for a 1-hour virtual session
hosted by our expert Accreditation
Specialists.**

**Monthly Topic: Review of P&P as part of
Continuous Quality Improvement**

**These interactive sessions provide an opportunity
to get answers to your questions about
accreditation and more.**

**Don't Miss Out— Stay Informed and on Track with
your Accreditation Goals!**

SIGN UP NOW



CABC Newsletter & News Brief

WELCOME RICHARD THIGPEN



Please join CABC in welcoming Richard Thigpen, MD, FACOG to our Board of Commissioners.

Richard Thigpen, MD, FACOG is a practicing OB/GYN and Assistant Professor of Clinical Obstetrics & Gynecology at Vanderbilt University Medical Center in Nashville, Tennessee. He serves as the Medical Director of The Vanderbilt Birth Center, a CABC-accredited freestanding birth center that opened in 2020, and previously served as

Volume 10, Issue 6: July 2025 CABC News Brief

Licensure vs. Accreditation: What's the Difference?		
	Licensure	Accreditation
Purpose	To protect public safety by the requirement to meet minimum standards	To evaluate and improve the quality of institutions or programs beyond basic licensing requirements
Scope	Focus is on safety and compliance with minimum standards. Educational component is usually minimal and secondary.	Focus is on both safety and continuous quality improvement. Typically involves an education-focused, self-evaluation &

Volume 10, Issue 5: June 2025 CABC News Brief



Who can apply?

To qualify a birth center must have:

- AABC Birth Center Membership
- A demonstrated financial hardship to pay 100% of their CABC accreditation fees
- A demonstrated capacity and a plan to complete the accreditation process with the intent to maintain

Volume 10, Issue 7: August 2025 CABC News Brief

Announcing Commissioner Officer Changes

Changes are happening in the CABC Board of Commissioners. Emily Hayes, previously Vice Chair, is taking over as Chair and Maria Petrie is stepping into the role of Vice Chair to assist with Emily's



Early Labor Triage

Another important factor is how staff and providers respond to client phone calls about labor. A P&P addressing this issue can provide useful guidance. A good rule of thumb is that after the second phone call, bring the client in for an in-person assessment, even if you think they are not in active labor. It is also important to allow ample time when evaluating a client for possible labor. Sometimes the client whose labor is about to become very active has a



...about the AABC Foundation Changemaker Grant?

The Changemaker Accreditation Grant was established in honor of the founders of the birth center movement and the current and future changemakers who propel the movement forward. The grant is designed to pay up to 100% of the *initial accreditation fee* or an accredited birth center's *annual fees* for CABC accreditation.

Get more information and an application [HERE](#)

In this issue:

Responding to A Birth Center Client's Unintended Home Birth

A phone call that can raise the blood pressure of any birth center staff member is from the family of a client at term and planning a birth center birth saying, "the baby is coming." The ideal response is for a midwife or birth assistant take over the phone call, but what if no clinical staff member is in-house? Steps can be taken to help prepare staff and families for this unexpected situation.

beginnings Birth ICU, the unit, at Miami Valley

artise in the ed on her g, CABC- strong ne birth center so shares her ne [How to Start](#)

Emily joined the CABC board in 2019 and has served as Vice Chair since 2022.

CABC is grateful for Maria's expert leadership during her term as Chair and thank her for her hard work and wise guidance!

We look forward to working with Emily in her new role!

Congratulations to These Birth Centers Achieving CABC-Accreditation for the First Time in 2025



**Commission for the
Accreditation of Birth Centers**
Supporting Standards & Inspiring Excellence through Learning

- ❖ Genesis Birth Concepts
- ❖ Earthside Birth & Wellness
- ❖ North Carolina Birth Center
- ❖ Casa Natal Birth & Wellness Center
- ❖ Potsdam Birth House
- ❖ Aya Birth & Community Wellness
- ❖ Simi Valley Birth Center
- ❖ Haven Women's Health & Birth Center
- ❖ Hive Birth Center
- ❖ Colville Women's Center & Birth Place
- ❖ Birth Detroit
- ❖ NorthPointe Birth Center
- ❖ The Birth Nest Midwifery & Birth Center
- ❖ Baby Catcher Birth Center



**Congratulations to these Pioneer Birth Centers Reaching
Excellence through Accreditation for Two Decades or More:**

- *Family Beginnings Birth Center, Dayton, OH (21 years)*
- *The Midwife Center for Birth & Women's Health, Pittsburgh, PA (22 years)*
- *Family Health & Birth Center, Washington, D.C. (24 years)*
- *Birth Care & Family Health Services, Bart, PA (25 years)*
- *Emerald Midwifery Consulting: The Birth Center, Newark, DE (26 years)*
- *Connecticut Childbirth & Women's Center, Danbury, CT - (27 years)*
- *Reading Midwife Center for Women's Wellness, Reading, PA - (30 years)*
- *Lilac Health Savannah Birth & Wellness Center, Savannah, GA - (31 years)*
- *BirthCare & Women's Health, Alexandria, VA - (31 years)*
- *Lifecycle WomanCare, Bryn Mawr, PA - (32 years)*
- *The Midwifery Center at Tucson Medical Center, Tucson, AZ (32 years)*