AABC
AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF BIRTH CENTERS

# Annual Business Meeting of Members

October 6, 2026 | 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



Secretary
Talita Oseguera
MSN, CNM, WHNP-BC



Treasurer
Sarah Sanders
PhD, MPH

# AABC Board of Directors



Triana Boggs
MSN, CNM, APRN



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



Amy Goh
PhD, MSN, MPhil, CNM



Claudia Jennings
BA



Ashley Jones
MSM, LM, CPM



Ebony Marcelle
DNP, CNM, FACNM

# AABC Board of Directors



Carla Morrow
DNP, CNM



Michelle Rhude
MSN, CNM



Heather Skanes
MD



Mary Sommers
MPS, CPM, IBCLC



Venus Standard
MSN, CNM, LCCE, LMT

# Committee Chairs



Trinisha Williams
MPH, CM, LCCE, LC, FACNM
Executive Committee



Michelle Rhude
MSN, CNM
Bylaws Committee
Nominating Committee
Standards Committee



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



Sarah Sanders
PhD, MPH
Finance Committee



Ebony Marcelle
DNP, CNM, FACNM
Audit Committee



Triana Boggs
MSN, CNM
Diversity + Inclusion Committee



Cheryl Bradshaw
RN, BSN, IBCLC
Education Committee
Program 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



Madi Grimes
CPM, CDM
Membership/PR 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

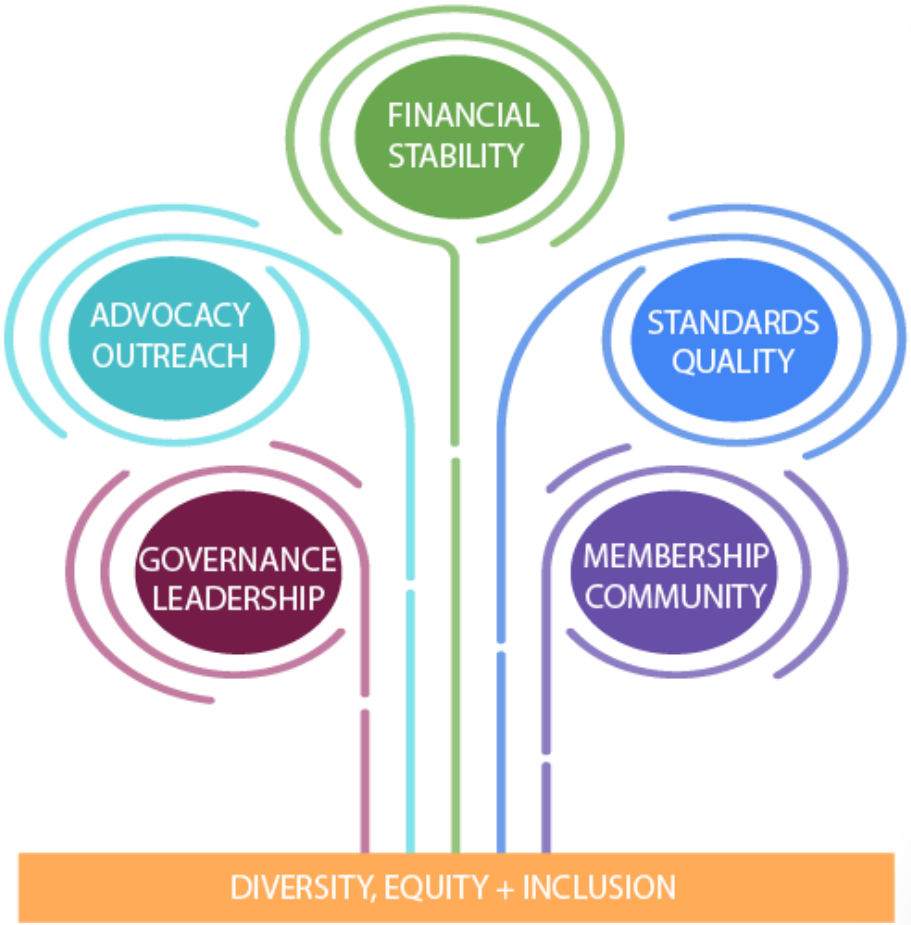
# President



Trinisha Williams
President

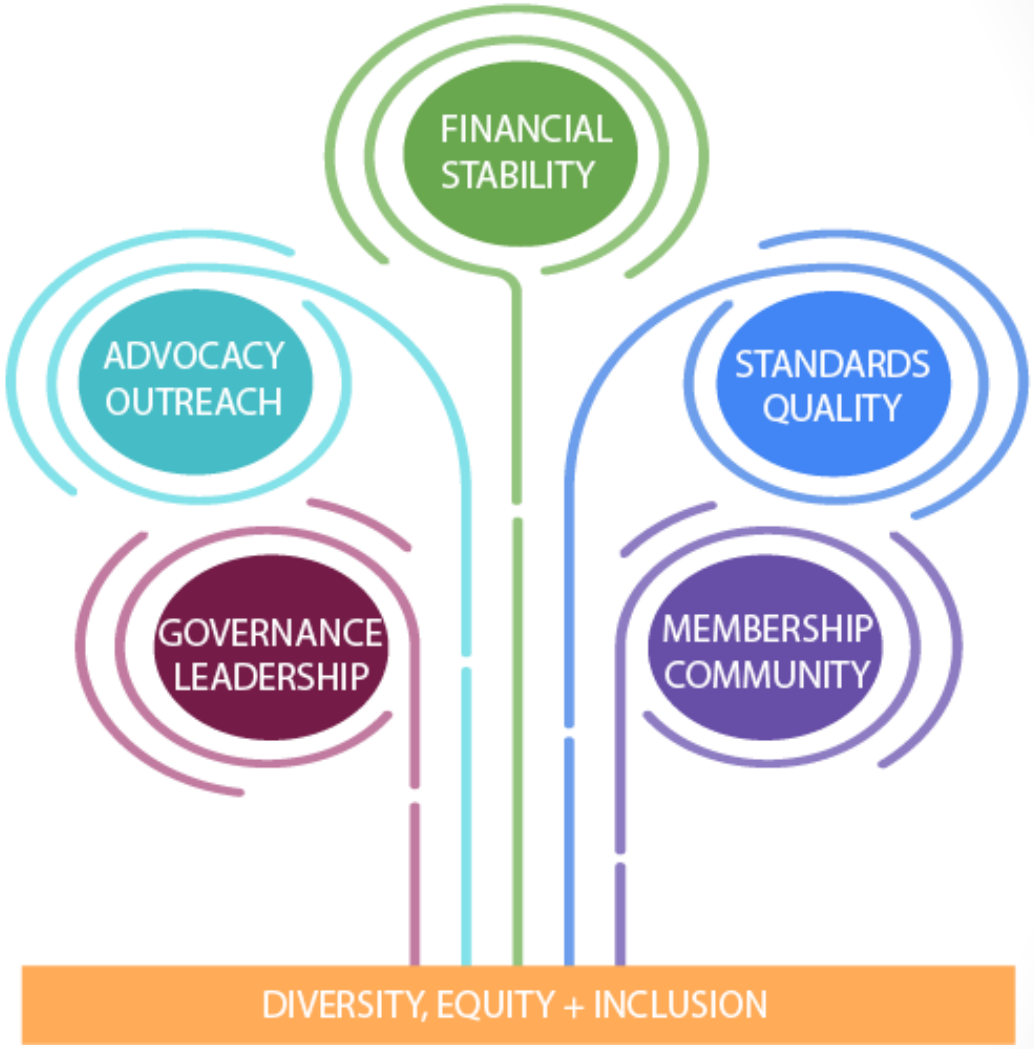
# Strategic Priorities

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



# 2026 Focus

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



# Executive Director



Kate Bauer
Executive Director

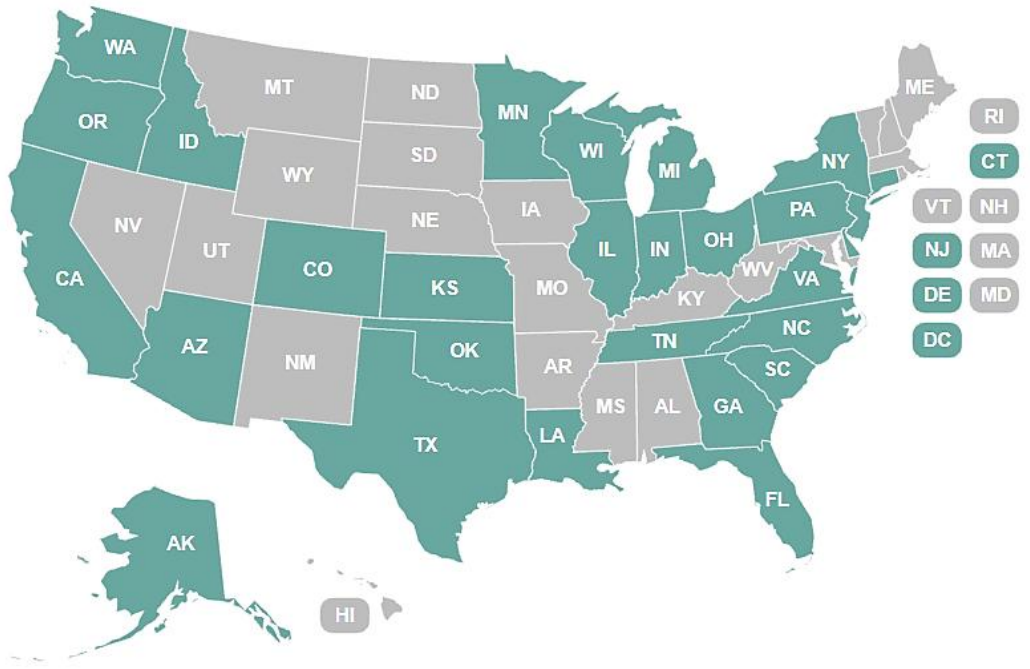
# AABC Perinatal Data Registry™

## Largest national registry for midwifery-led birth

## Fast Facts

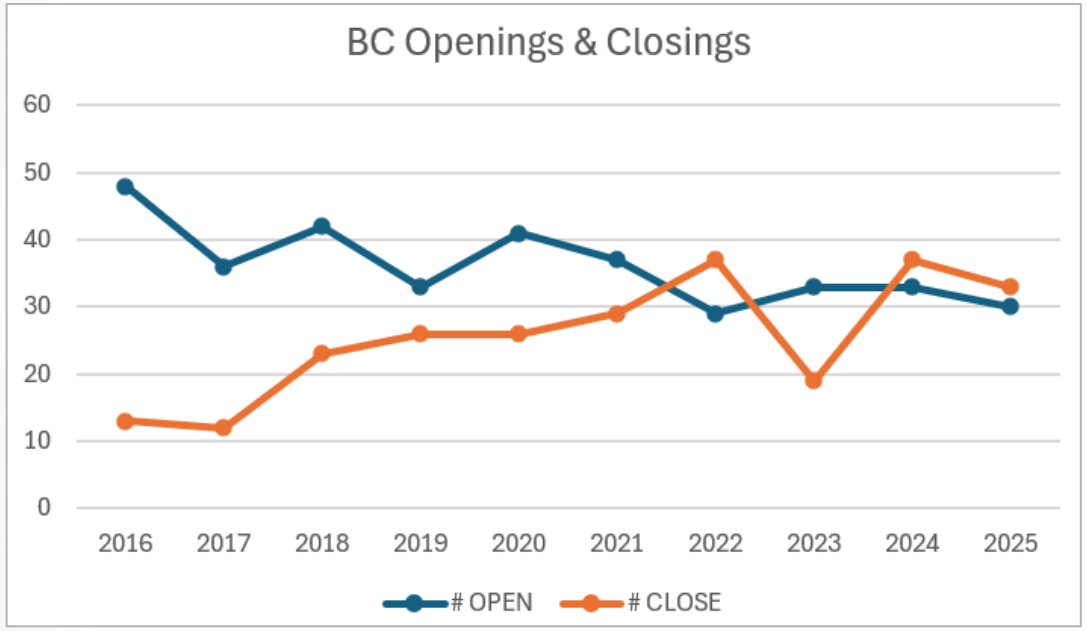
- 283,377 PDR records
  - 8,377 on new platform
  - 275,000 historical records migrating to new platform
- Client Journey (Experience) Survey
  - 294 total responses to date
- New Birth Center Survey Coming
  - Same platform to broaden research using combined datasets (clinical + client experience + practice)

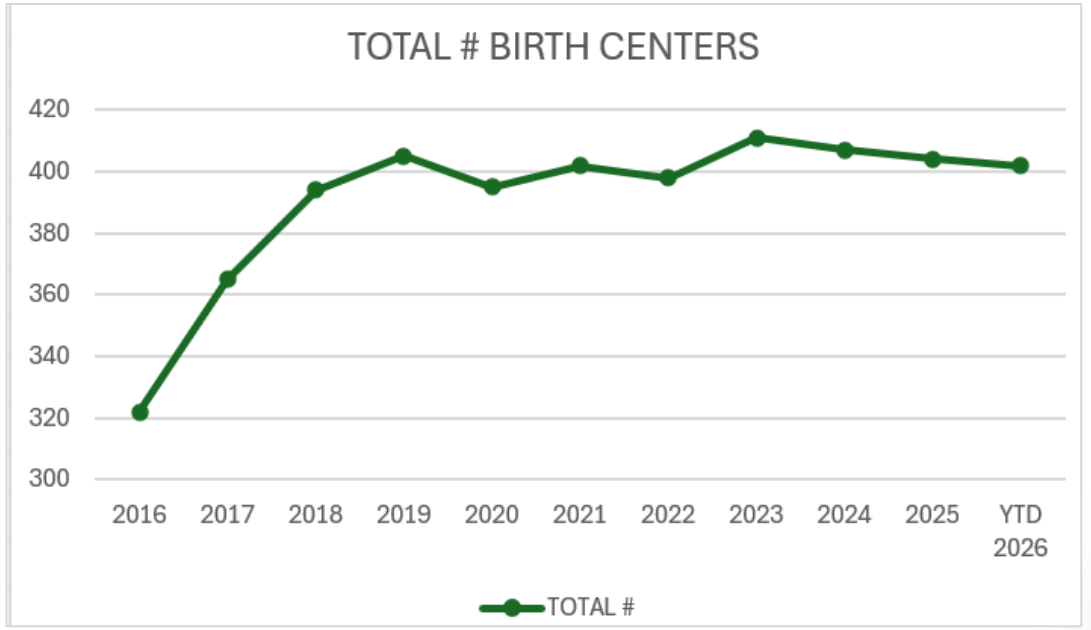
79 Practices across 28 states migrated to new Qualtrics platform



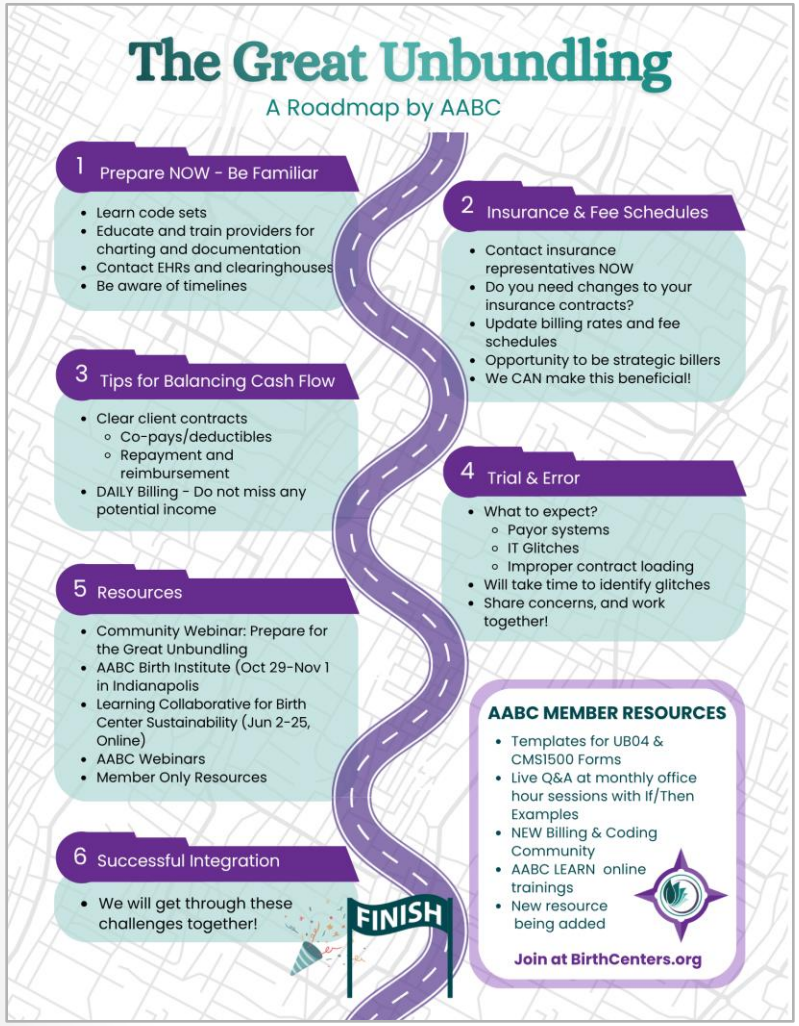
# Birth Center Openings & Closings

## A 10-Year View



# New Education Offerings









# Collaborations

- Coalitions – Midwifery Education Policy Network,  Maternal and Child Health Appropriations Alliance, U.S. Breastfeeding Committee
- Legal Initiatives – ACLU and Pacific Legal Foundation
- Action Alerts – federal midwifery bills, appropriations requests
  - ACNM, NACPM, Birth Center Equity, and Policy Institute for Community Birth & Midwifery
- Request for Executive Action resubmitted with WABC, ACNM, and NACPM
- National Council of State Legislatures exhibit
- International Congress of Midwives Triennial Congress
  - Multiple presentations
  - Exhibited with GoodBirth

# Collaborations

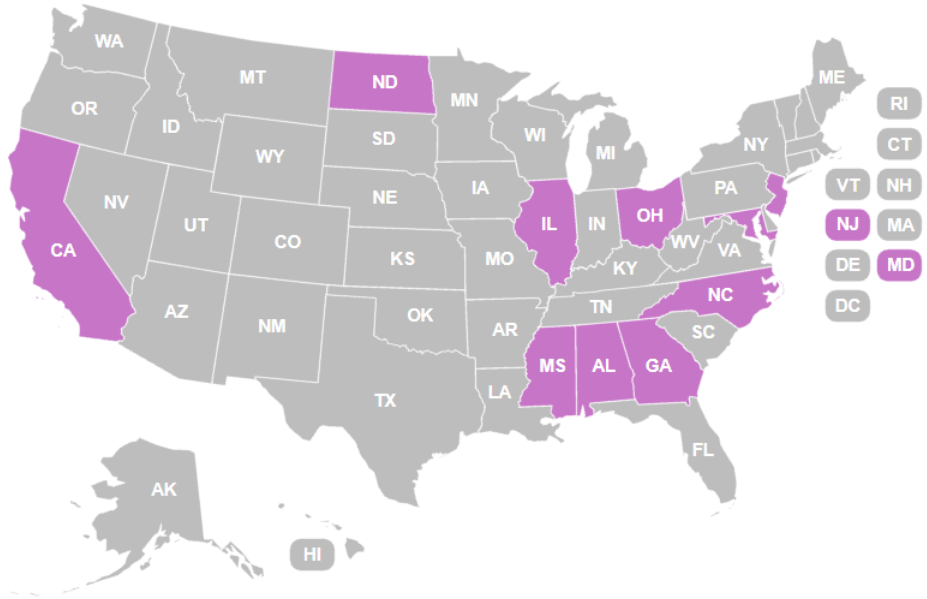



BELOVED Birth | 50 by fifty

Mothered Midwives

MIDWIFERY POLICY COLLECTIVE

Stewarding community birth and midwifery policy in 10 states




AABC AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF BIRTH CENTERS

BIRTH CENTER EQUITY

birth place lab

the elephant circle

INSTITUTE FOR MEDICAID INNOVATION

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION TO ADVANCE BLACK BIRTH

NACPM national association of certified professional midwives




Convened and Funded by

PRITZKER Children's Initiative

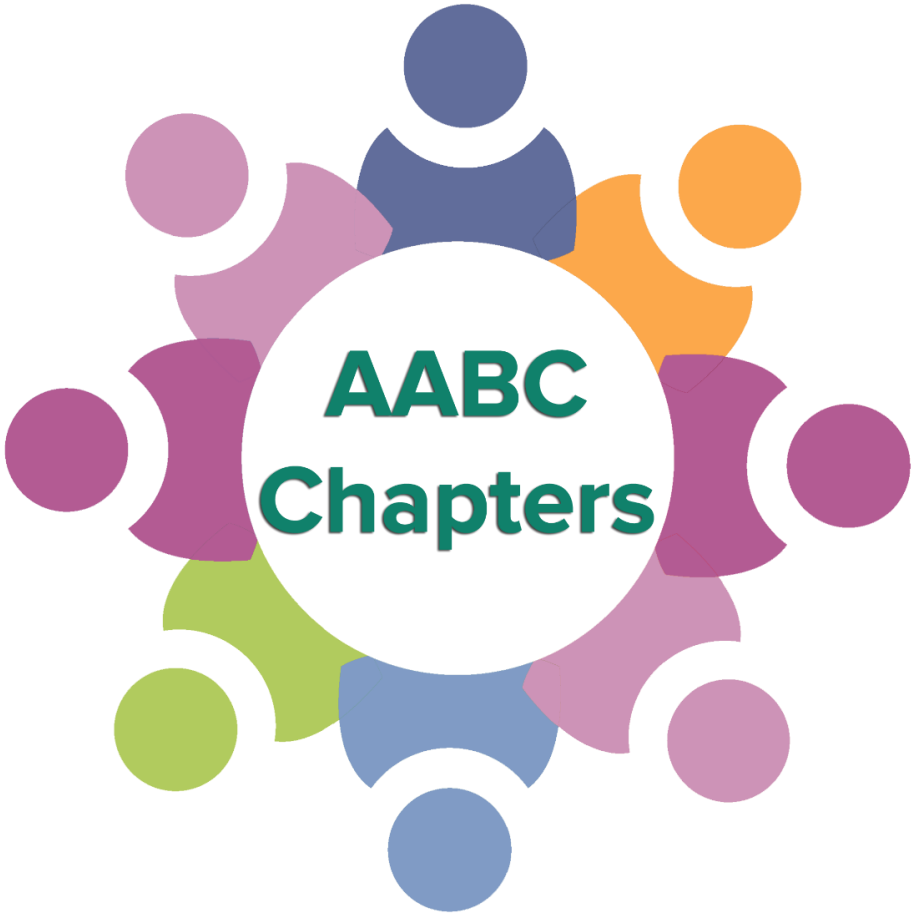
# Grant Funding






# AABC Chapters

- Supporting existing chapters
- Assisting members who want to form chapters
- 9 chapters
- 3 chapters in development




Learn more at https://www.birthcenters.org/state-chapters


VOLUNTEER!
SCAN ME
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 Coordinator



Ericka Cameron
AABCF Development Coordinator

# Finance Committee



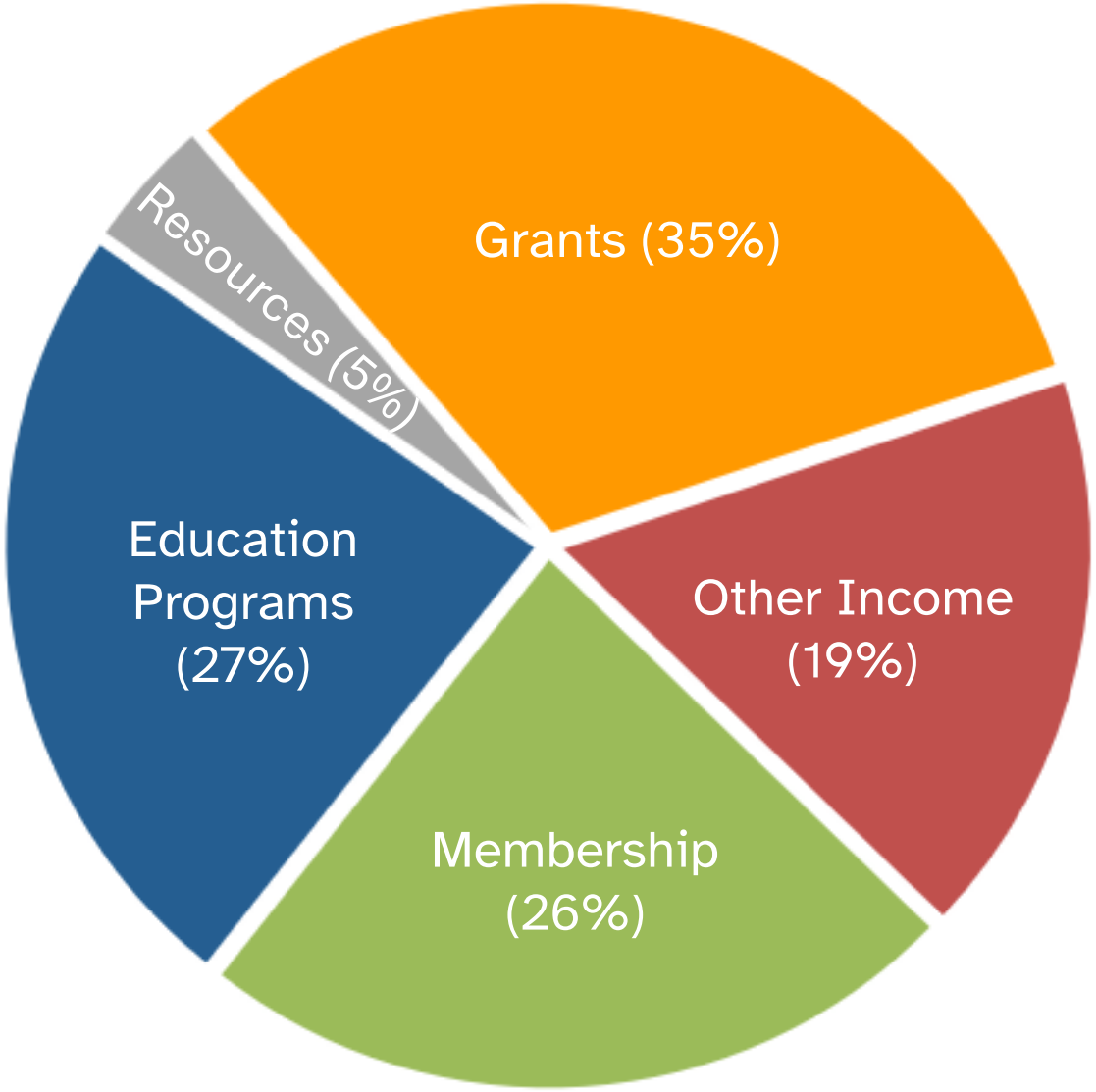
Sarah Annalise Sanders
Treasurer

# 2025 Income/Expense

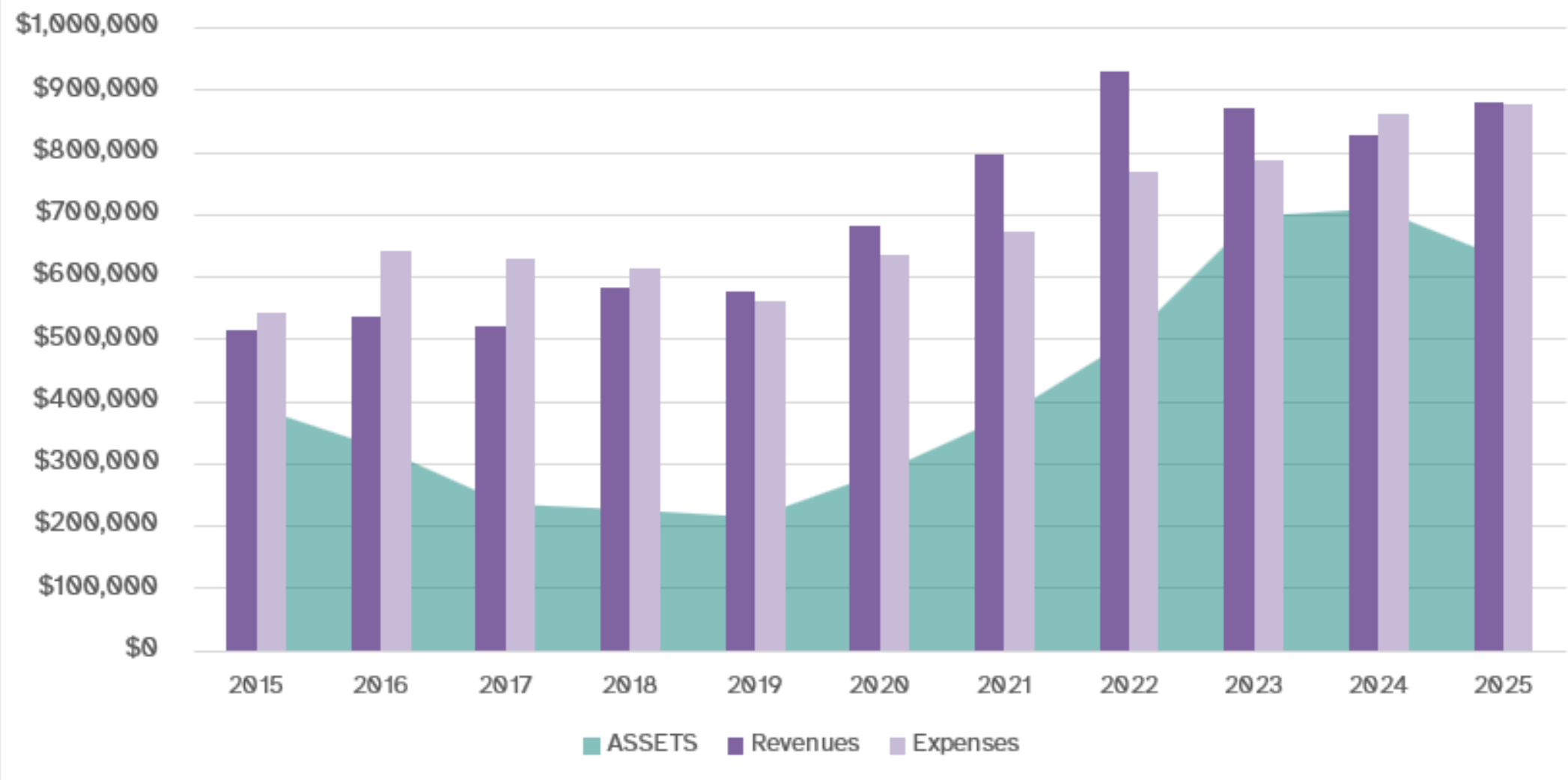
| REVENUES | 2025 ACTUAL |
|---|---|
| Publications / Resources | $35,529 |
| AABC Birth Institute | 146,604 |
| Education Programs | 65,399 |
| Membership | 206,537 |
| AABCF Management | 104,492 |
| Grants | 275,000 |
| Investments | 36,691 |
| Other Income | 11,717 |
| TOTAL REVENUES | $881,970 |

| EXPENSES | 2025 ACTUAL |
|---|---|
| Personnel | $480,344 |
| Contracted Services | 68,552 |
| Operational Expenses | 78,154 |
| Publications/Resources | 17,575 |
| Research/PDR | 46,767 |
| Diversity + Inclusion | 15,000 |
| AABC Birth Institute | 105,019 |
| Education Programs | 31,333 |
| Travel/Meeting | 34,425 |
| Bad Debt | 190 |
| TOTAL EXPENSES | $877,359 |

# Revenue Sources



# Assets, Revenue & Expense History



# Research Committee



Nancy Niemczyk
Committee Chair

# Committee Activities/Highlights

BIRTH ISSUES IN PERINATAL CARE

- Bradbury, S., Jolles, D., Hoehn-Velasco, L., Stapleton, S., Bauer, K., Alliman, J., Stapleton, J. (2026). Quality Care in Midwifery-Led Birth Centers: Assessing the Disconnect Between Reimbursement and Perinatal Outcomes. *Birth*, 53(3), 604-611. http://doi.org/10.1111/birt.70057
- *Journal of Midwifery & Women's Health* special issue on community birth: November/December 2026.
  - 2 PDR articles
  - 3 or 4 others by present/past Research Committee members
- Plans for next year:
  - Start annual birth center report using PDR data
  - Collaborate with Scholars Strategy Network to bring report to relevant constituencies: policy makers, insurance companies, etc. Connect with America's Top Researchers | Scholars Strategy Network

Journal of Midwifery & Women's Health



# Diversity & Inclusion Committee



Triana Boggs
Committee Co-Chair



Amy Goh
Committee Co-Chair

# Committee Activities/Highlights

- Total Scholarships Awarded in 2026: **22**
  - Birth Institute: **9** awarded
  - How to Start a Birth Center Workshop: **11** awarded
  - Learning Collaborative: **2** awarded

Affinity Groups

- Members of the Global Majority, LGBTQIA+, White Allyship

- Equity Toolkit
  - Launching at the Birth Institute 2026

# Government Affairs Committee



Jill Alliman
Committee Chair

# Committee Leadership







Jill Alliman, Committee Chair
Ashley Jones & Moira Tannenbaum, Vice Chairs

# Committee Activities/Highlights

- Federal Legislation—3 Midwifery Bills introduced in Congress.  AABC federal consultant Debbie Jessup on the Hill weekly. Appropriations for midwifery scholarships now in 7th year!
- Meeting at HHS in August with HHS and CMS officials
- State Legislation—New birth center regulations in KY, MI, VT. Testimony or information provided as requested.
- AABC working in coalition to grow impact-Meeting every 2 weeks with Birth Center Equity, NACPM, Policy Institute for Community Birth and Midwifery, ACNM, and National Alliance of Black Midwives.  Joint talking points, statements and action.
- Come join this exciting work!

# HSBC Workshops Committee



Brianna Bennett

Committee Chair

# HSBC Workshops Committee




- In-Person workshops
  - February – Custom AMU Workshop
  - October – HSBC @ Birth Institute
- Continue to offer online course
- Faculty hold monthly curbside consulting sessions for participants and DBC/BC members
- Outreach to midwifery programs

# Industry Relations Committee



Desiree LeFave
Committee Co-Chair

# Industry Relations Committee

## Another Year of Advancing Birth Center Access

This year, we have continued our national work to:

- **Expand access to birth center care across the U.S.**
- **Educate on fair, sustainable reimbursement** for birth center facility and professional services—especially as part of addressing the maternal health crisis
- Help birth centers navigate **contracting and network participation**
- Develop solutions that support the **long-term financial sustainability** of high-quality birth centers

# Industry Relations Committee

## A Major Focus: The Great Unbundling

Much of this work has been carried forward through focused **IRC subcommittees** working to:

- Demystify the U.S. transition **away from global maternity codes**
- Educate member birth centers and the broader birth community about what these changes mean
- Help birth centers **prepare for and navigate the transition**
- Support practices in remaining **financially strong and sustainable** throughout an evolving and somewhat uncertain process

# International Committee



Amy Johnson-Grass
Minnesota Chapter President

# AABC International Committee

*2026 Year in Review*

## ICM 34th Triennial Congress

- Lisbon, Portugal · June 2026
- Committee members attended and represented AABC on the global stage

## Birth Center Presentations

- Several birth center–focused sessions, including:
  - *Exploring Global Interest in Midwifery-Led Birth Centers: A Preliminary Inquiry and Next Steps*
  - *Strengthening the Midwifery-Led Birth Center Movement: Lessons from AABC's 40-Year Journey*

## New Global Network Launched

- Establishment of the International Confederation of Midwifery-Led Centers (ICMC)
- Introductory meeting held at ICM Lisbon

## Coming Early 2027: Global Forum

- Speakers from different regions will present on current events in midwifery and midwifery-led birth centers
- **Stay tuned for date and time!**

# Membership Committee

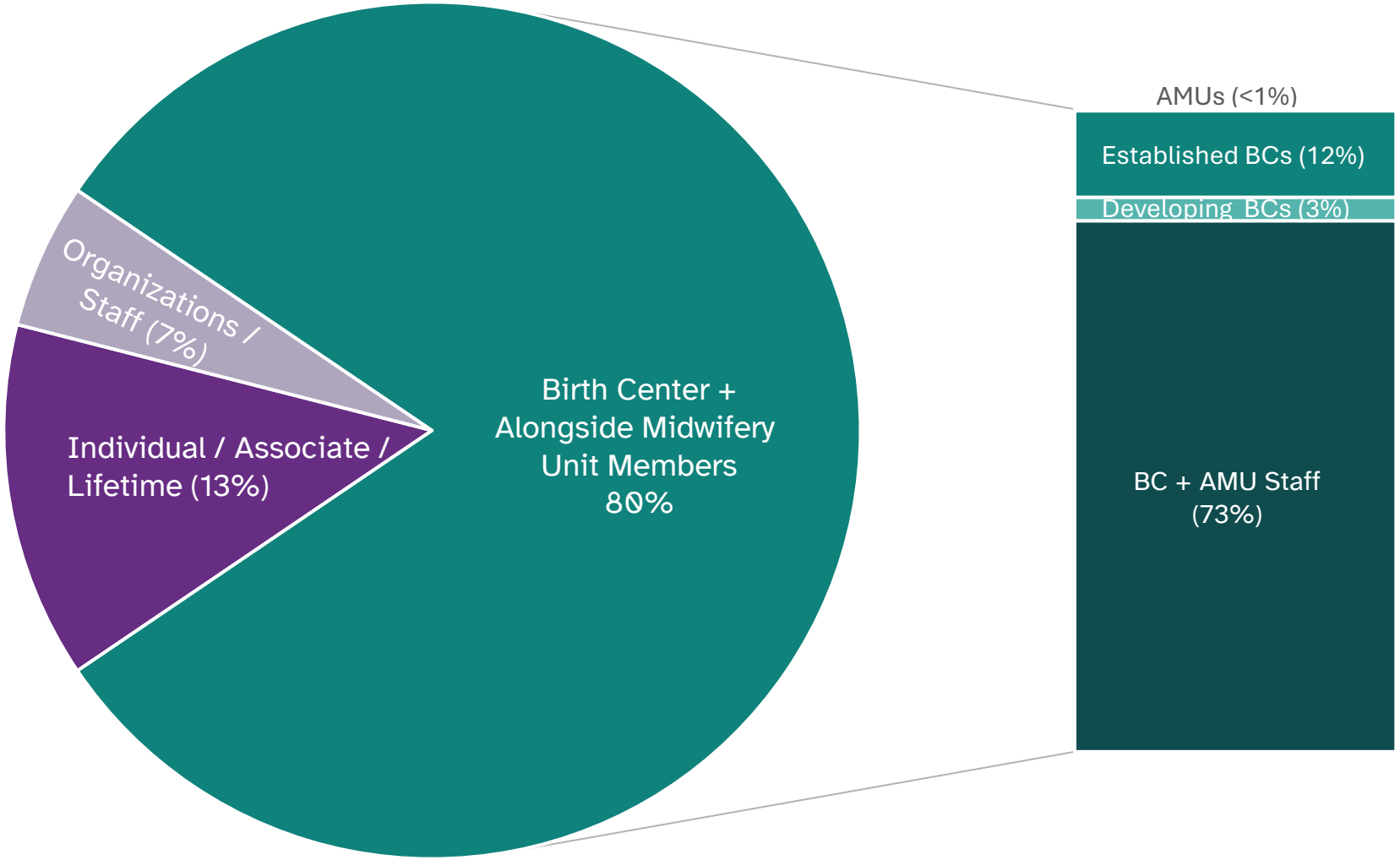


Madi Grimes
Committee Chair

# Membership Committee

- Primary Focus: Identifying and hiring a brand strategy consultant, Big Duck, to review current branding. This was completed through targeted member interviews and a focus group.
- Key findings
  - Many people find ‘AABC is a member-centered organization that nurtures crucial, supportive connections with peers while advancing midwifery.’
  - Ongoing brand/identity confusion with CABC and AABC, especially given overlap with logos and commonly used colors. A general lack of consistency with brand imaging and colors throughout various promotional efforts
- Next steps: Synthesize findings from consultants into actionable steps over the next 1-3 years, including review of our color palette, social media presence, and possible review of logo and tagline used by AABC, as budget allows

# AABC Members



# Nominating Committee



Michelle Rhude
Committee Chair

# 2026 Elections

Congratulations to these members elected to serve



AMY GOH
PhD, CNM, FACNM
President-Elect



Rebeckah Orton
BS, RN
Director



Mary Sommers
MPS, CPM, IBCLC
Director



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



Charline Mitchell
MSEd, IBCLC
Director

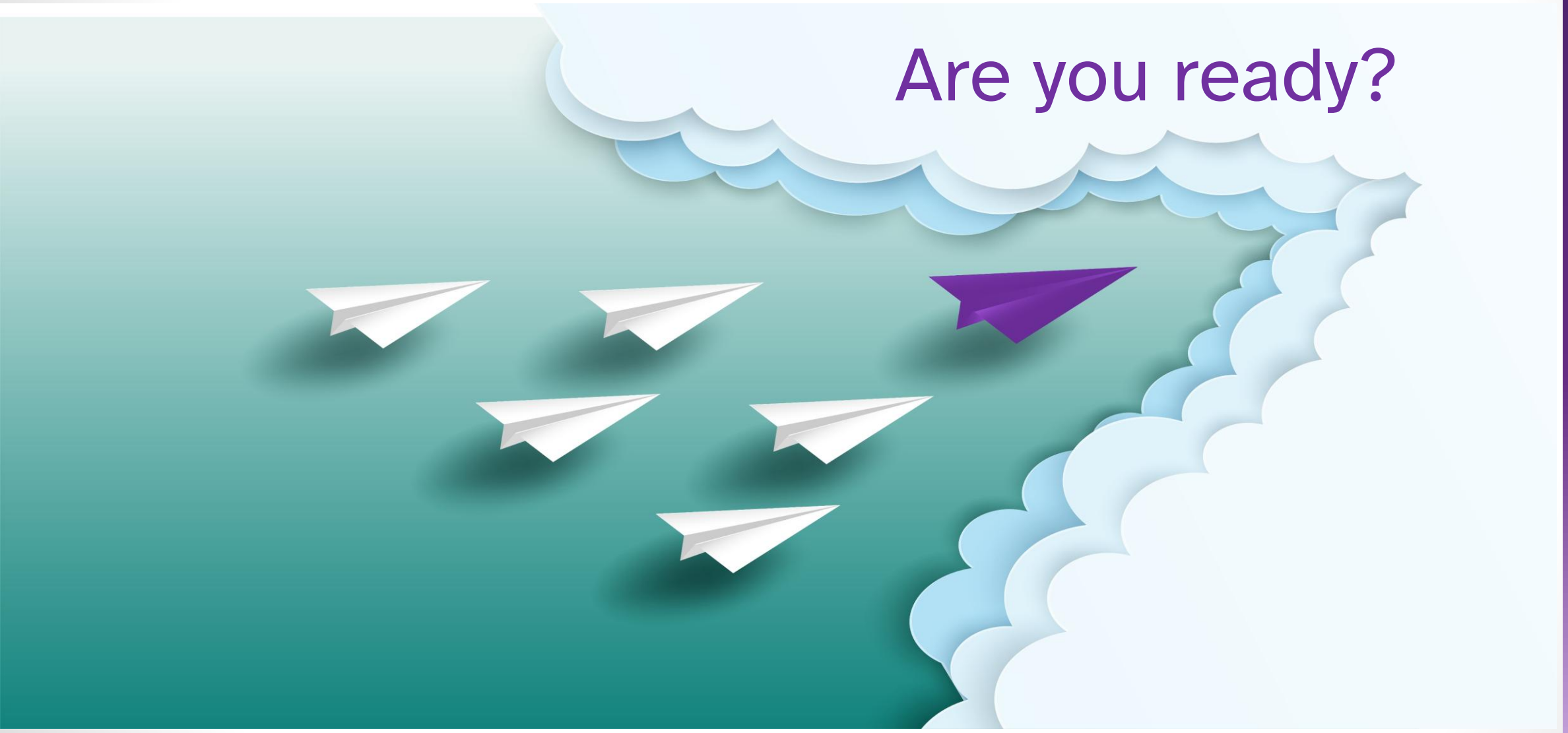


Talita Wells Oseguera
DNP, CNM, IBCLC
Director



Lindsay Lachant
DNP, APRN/CNM, IBCLC, PMH-C
Alternate Director

# Take a Leadership Role in 2027



# Program Committee



Cheryl Bradshaw
Program Committee Co-Chair



Michele Nizza
Program Committee Co-Chair

REGISTER NOW

# START YOUR ENGINES!

## 2026 AABC Birth Institute

**Driving Innovation in Birth Centers**

OCT 29 - NOV 1, 2026 | Indianapolis, IN

Sustainability. Leadership. Equity.

THERE'S STILL TIME TO REGISTER!

# Committee Activities/Highlights

- 2026 Birth Institute, Indianapolis, Indiana
  - Coming up! October 29 through November 1, 2026.
  - Registration numbers are down for this year.
  - Committee members are assisting with conference promotion by sharing AABC posts and reaching out within other social media groups.
  - Good news is that registration is also available in-person.
  - Fun activity! “Show Us Your Drawers!” presentations
    - Participating birth centers will display pictures of their organization.
  - Networking is always a hit with our attendees, so we will continue to encourage people to participate.

# Announcement!

- 2027 Community Birth Conference
  - Conference Partners:
    - American Association of Birth Centers (AABC)
    - National Association of Certified Professional Midwives (NACPM)
  - May 20 through May 23, 2027, Greenville, South Carolina
  - We have a large, engaging, diverse committee
  - Conference theme:
    - The Confluence: Shaping the Future of Community Birth
    - Theme invites us to bring together ideas, research, and innovation to advance our field.
  - There will **not** be a fall 2027 Birth Institute this year as we are bringing the conference back to the Spring.

# Standards Committee

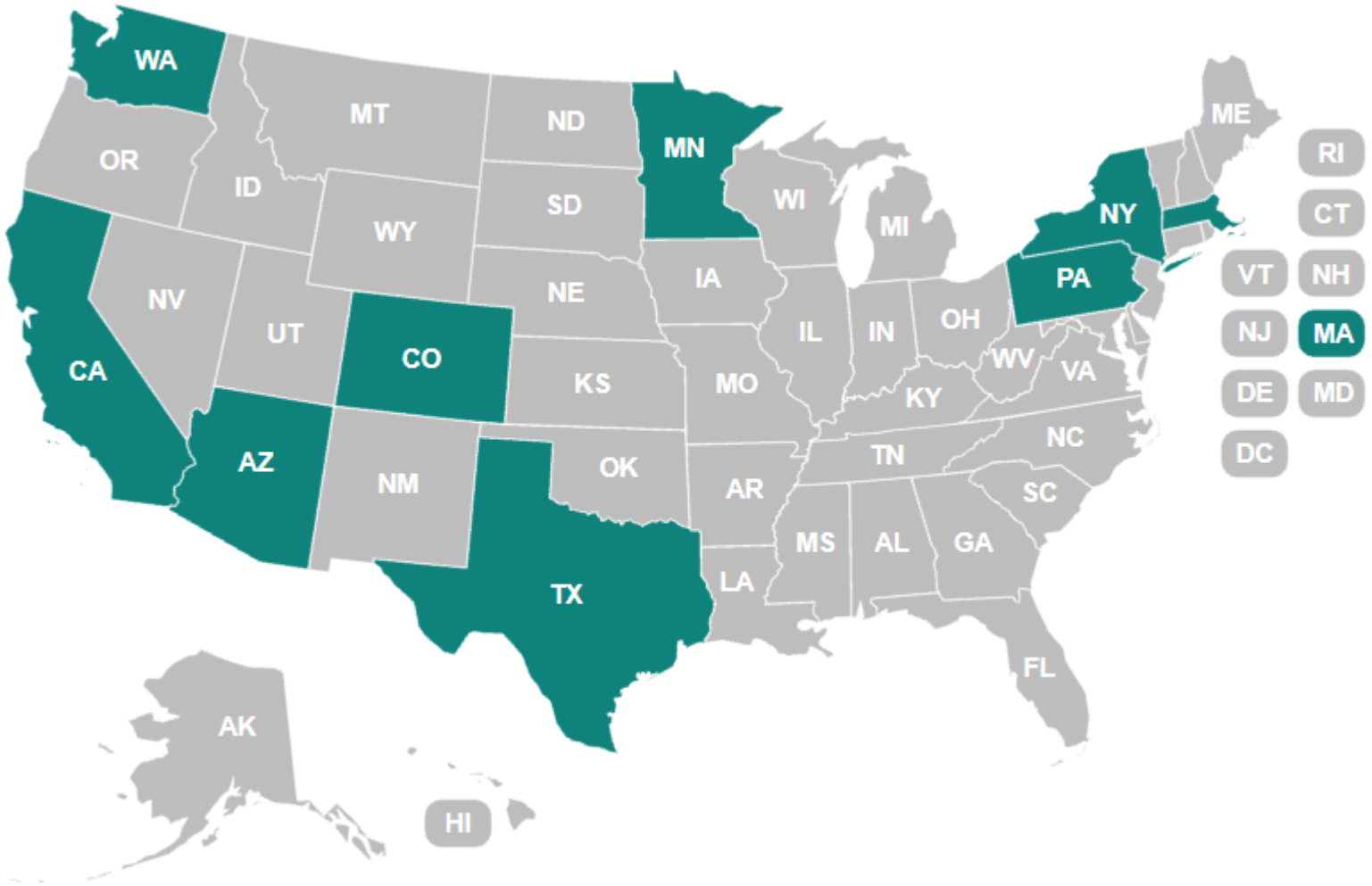


Michelle Rhude
Committee Chair

# 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.
- 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
  - External stakeholders review
  - Standards Committee review of feedback/changes
  - Board approval
- FINAL STEP: Member ratification
  - Webinar on November 11th
  - Online Voting: November 11 – December 17th

# CHAPTER UPDATES



# California Chapter



Melissa Dean
California Chapter President

# California Chapter

- AB 55 went into effect January 1, 2026.
  - Eliminated hospital proximity mandates for licensed birth centers.
  - Removed CPSP certification requirements - birth centers can now provide equivalent care without performing duplicative work.
  - Established an all-inclusive Medi-Cal birth center facility rate capped at 80% of average hospital reimbursement; however, no changes to Medi-Cal rates have occurred.
  - Requires birth centers follow AABC Standards or a state-approved equivalent.
- While these changes reduce barriers to birth center licensure, they do not eliminate a primary barrier to birth center licensure: hospital-grade building code requirements.
- Licensure therefore remains functionally unobtainable to the majority of birth centers in California at this time.

# California Chapter

Formed new Subcommittee on Sustainability in response to continued birth center closures.

- Engaged Department of Managed Health Care regarding persistent commercial payor barriers, including “phantom networks” and inadequate midwifery or birth center coverage.
- Developed relationship with California Association of Health Plans to educate insurers on the birth center model.
  - Networked with plan leaders at the recent regional meeting.
  - Exhibiting at the upcoming annual conference to engage executive leadership and plan decision-makers.
- Reviewing legislative priorities for 2027 to address ongoing commercial and structural barriers.

# Colorado Chapter



Katie Johnson
Colorado Chapter President

# Massachusetts Chapter



Erin George
Massachusetts Chapter President


AABC Annual Business Meeting = October 6, 2026

# Massachusetts Chapter

- Established February 2026
  - Founding Officers

    President: Erin George, PhD, CNM, FACNM

    Vice President: Zev Colsen, CPM

    Secretary: Katherine Rushfirth, CNM, FACNM

    Treasurer: Rachel Blessington, CNM, CPM
- Chapter elections happening October 23!
- Foundational year – acting executive board representing the AABC chapter at midwifery and consumer meetings across the state
  - Participating in advocacy meetings related to birth center professional/facility fee reimbursement, CPM reimbursement/licensure activities, and requesting hospitals in the state stop using the terms “birth center” or “birthing center”
  - Participating in November midwifery policy agenda meeting for the state

# Massachusetts Chapter

- Research
  - Katherine Rushfirth was the lead author on a paper recently published in the Journal of Midwfery & Women's Health on the Massachusetts Maternal Health Omnibus Law that passed in 2024
    - Two of the co-authors: Erin George and Amy Goh (AABC Board Member)
    - Updated birth center regulations in the state and paved the way for CPM licensure to begin (temporary licensure live in September 2026)
  - Erin George is the lead author of an analysis under review that examines paid malpractice claims related to midwifery care in the United States
    - Two of the co-authors: Zev Colsen and Amy Goh (AABC Board Member)
    - Data from 2005-2-26 reveals that midwives only account for 0.7% of the total paid malpractice claims in the country
    - Important data when addressing community midwifery malpractice rates!

# Minnesota Chapter



Amy Johnson-Grass
Minnesota Chapter President

# AABC Minnesota Chapter

*2026 Year in Review*

## Keeping the Momentum Going

- Chapter members met monthly
- Working to coordinate collective advocacy across birth centers in Minnesota

## Final SPA Approval: June 2026

- CMS approved the State Plan Amendment for the 2025 birth center pay equity legislation
- Clears the way for the new Medicaid rates

## Putting the Law into Practice

- Working with Medicaid (DHS) and insurers to implement the passed legislation
- Making sure new rates and billing reach birth centers

## Commercial Contracts

- Negotiating with commercial payers to adopt the pay equity rate methodology when contracts are updated
- Working to extend equitable reimbursement beyond Medicaid

# New York Chapter



Myla Flores
New York Chapter President

# New York State Chapter

## 2026 Highlights

- MMHC
- Birth Center Week



# Pennsylvania Chapter



Christine Haas
Pennsylvania Chapter President

# Pennsylvania Chapter

## Updates with PA Birth Centers

- Lebanon Valley successfully changed ownership at the beginning of the year and is now Midwives of Lebanon Valley (and still the Lebanon Valley Birth Center)
- Reading is in the process of transferring ownership to a new co-owner
- Philadelphia Midwife Collective started construction on a new birth center and hopes to open in 2027
- The Midwife Center celebrated its 10,000th birth in March
- Birth Care and Family Services was awarded a grant from the PA Rural Health Transformation Plan
- Sadly, Lifecycle Birth Center closed in March after 48 years serving its community

## Advocacy Efforts

- Co-Hosted educational webinar with March of Dimes and the PA Black Maternal Health Caucus on 9/14 in honor of Birth Center Week. 33 state legislators, staffers and agency leaders attended
- Bill 507 “Midwifery Modernization” finally passed, creating licensure for Certified Midwives, expansion of prescriptive privileges including for substance abuse and other improvements. Efforts were led by PA ACNM with support from the March of Dimes and the PA AABC chapter

# Coalition of Texas Birth Centers




## Jackie Griggs, CNM

Committee Chair/ President

Contact Info

jackie.griggs@ctbc.org

Certified Nurse-Midwife advocating for natural birth options across Texas.

# Texas Chapter

- We are working to educate all Texas Birth Centers about the benefits of working together in unity to advocate for birth centers.
- We are speaking at a statewide conference, The Gathering of Midwives, in November to advocate for joining AABC and all working together for the best for Texas Birth Centers.
- We have a strong Board and Membership Director to bring Texas Birth Centers together.
- Monthly online Zoom meetings to bring Birth Center Directors from all over the state together.
- Planning Regional breakfast meetings in 2027 to continue educating Texas Birth Centers about how important for us all to work together.
- Spoke last week at Hearing for public comments on Maternal Mortality state committee.

# Washington Chapter



Ashley Jones
Washington Chapter President

WABC
WASHINGTON ASSOCIATION of BIRTH CENTERS
A CHAPTER OF AMERICAN ASSOC. OF BIRTH CENTERS

- Established Birth Center License fee cap
  - Annual licensing was set to increase from $734 to $3000, capped at $998
- Medicaid underpayment backpay received!
  - Discrepancy found within the State Plan Amendment since 2017 which resulted in over $1,000,000 paid back to birth centers!
- Newborn coverage added to Medicaid
  - Routine care now covered through 2 weeks
- Led donations and mobilize for Oregon Supreme Court Case
- Upcoming Plans
  - Add Medical Assistant to LM supervisory code
  - Newborn Facility Fee
  - Parity Facility Transfer Fee

AABC Foundation

# Foundation Update

Grow more birth centers. Serve more families.

# AABC Foundation Update

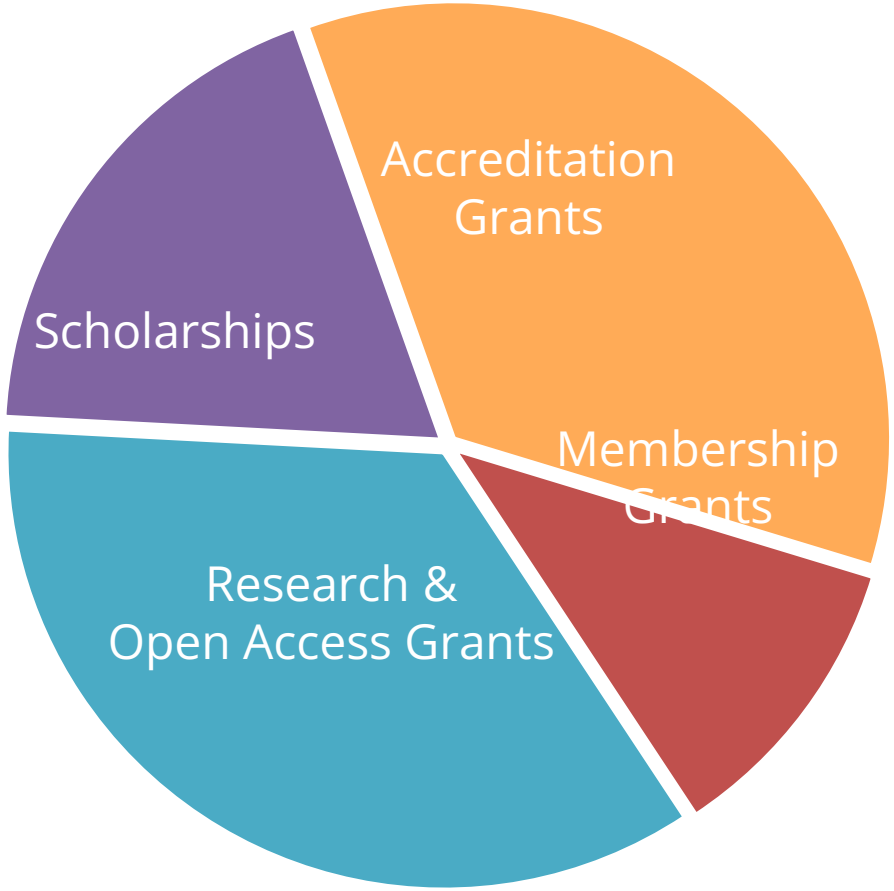
AABC Foundation
Grow more birth centers. Serve more families.



Brianna Bennett
AABC Foundation President

# Funds at Work - 2026

AABC Foundation
Grow more birth centers. Serve more families.




- **$10,665** in Scholarships
- **$20,000** in Accreditation Grants
- **$6,270** in Membership Grant**s**
- **$20,000** in Research & Open Access Grants

**$56,935 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 2026
- Lisa Ross Scholarship
  - Provides funding to attend the annual AABC Birth Institute
  - Awarded 8 scholarships in 2026
- 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 22 scholarships in 2026

# Grants – Fueling Growth & Innovation

- Changemaker Accreditation Support Grants
  - Birth centers can apply for funding for up to full accreditation fee
  - 5 grants awarded YTD 2026
- Membership Support Grants
  - 7 grants awarded YTD 2026



*"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***

# Research Grants

AABC Foundation
Grow more birth centers. Serve more families.

## 4 Grants Awarded in 2026

- Birth Center Barriers: A Snapshot of State Medicaid Reimbursement
- United States Birth Center Transfer Study
- Rooted in Consensus: Advancing Birth Center Care Through Black Mothers' and Doulas' Vision of a Good Birth
- Implementation Analysis of Opening the First Freestanding Birth House in the Czech Republic Using International Standards and Accreditation Indicators

**The application period for research grants is now open**
**Submit your Letter of Intent by November 15th for consideration**

**Find more information at aabcfoundation.org/research-grants**

# Fiscal Sponsorship

AABC Foundation

Grow more birth centers. Serve more families.

AABC American Association of Birth Centers

worcester community midwifery

BIRTH IN COLOR Midwifery, LLC

Oasis Family Birthing Center

BOULDER BIRTH HOLISTIC HEALTH

Birth Freedom Foundation

Birth Haven — Birth Center & Holistic Women's Health — 603-912-8088 | BirthHavenNH.com

Manor Birth Sanctuary

Green Mountain Birth Center

Haven Midwifery

RESERVE
YOUR TICKET



You are invited to AABC Foundation's

# MOONLIT MASQUERADE

Saturday, October 31, 2026 at 7:30 PM
Hilton Indianapolis Downtown
120 W. Market Street, Indianapolis, IN 46204

Get Your Tickets: https://www.aabcfoundation.org/events-gala2026

# CABC Update

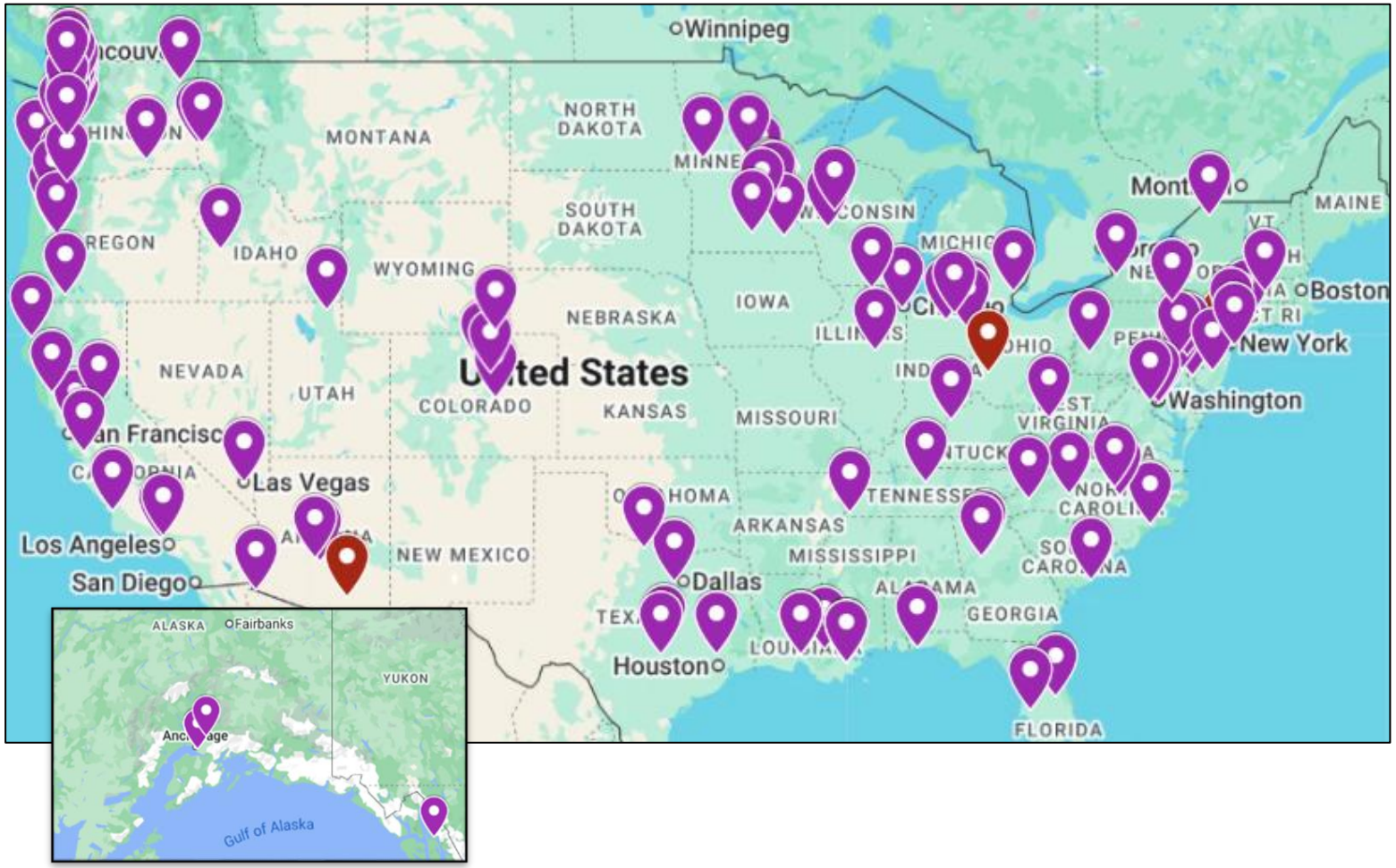
Commission for the Accreditation of Birth Centers
*Supporting Standards & Inspiring Excellence through Learning*



Michele DeAngelo
CABC Executive Director

# 110 accredited birth centers across 31 states + Washington, DC

| State | Count |
|---|---|
| Washington | 17 |
| Minnesota | 10 |
| Oregon | 8 |
| California | 7 |
| Indiana | 5 |
| Louisiana | 5 |
| North Carolina | 5 |
| New York | 5 |
| Texas | 5 |
| Pennsylvania | 4 |
| Arizona | 4 |




*Additional accredited facilities are located across 21 other states and Washington, DC.

# Congratulations to These Birth Centers Achieving CABC-Accreditation for the First Time in 2026

- Pure Births- Santa Clarita, CA
- Cache Valley Birth Center- Logan, UT
- Bliss Women's Wellness and Birth Center- Conroe, TX
- Anacortes Birth Center- Anacortes, WA
- SolHaven Birth Center- North Mankato, MN
- Birthing Center NYC- Brooklyn, NY
- Intimate Journey Birth & Wellness- San Luis Obispo, CA
- Yelm Family Birth Center- Yelm, WA
- San Luis New Vida Birthing Center- San Luis, AZ



# CABC WORKSHOP

Join us in Indianapolis, Indiana at the American Association of Birth Centers 2026 Birth Institute for our *Achieving Birth Center Accreditation* Workshop.

**Thursday October 29th** **1:00 PM - 4:30 PM**

- History & Purpose - Benefits of CABC-accreditation
- Cost & Funding
- Getting Started - Eligibility, types of accreditation, multiple site designations
- Path to Success - Getting ready, documents needed, preparing for site visit
- After Accreditation - Progress report, Interim Status Reports, renewing

Cost: $200 for AABC Members
$250 Non-members

REGISTER HERE

Questions? Contact CABC at 877-241-0262
www.birthcenteraccreditation.org

# CABC WORKSHOP

Join us in Indianapolis, Indiana at the American Association of Birth Centers 2026 Birth Institute for our *Maintaining Birth Center Accreditation* Workshop.

**Thursday October 29th** **9:00 AM - 12.00 PM**

- Refresh - Timeline, documents to gather & submit, using CABC platforms, site visit, reports due
- Update - Changes in accreditation process, forms, & CABC Indicators since your last accreditation cycle
- Discuss - Get answers to your questions & advice on how to address challenges

REGISTER HERE

Included in CABC fees for all currently CABC-accredited birth centers and alongside midwifery units

Questions? Contact CABC at 877-241-0262
www.birthcenteraccreditation.org



Commission for the Accreditation of Birth Centers

*Supporting Standards & Inspiring Excellence through Learning*

# Accreditation Success Session

## Join CABC Wednesday September 16th at 12pm EDT for a 1-hour virtual session hosted by our expert Accreditation Specialists.

## Monthly Topic: Continuous Quality Improvement between site visits

**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

Commission for the Accreditation of Birth Centers
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# CABC Newsletter & News Brief

## Are You Taking Advantage of CABC Resources?




## Volume 11, Issue 1: January 2026 CABC News Brief




### Admission EFM Tracing: Does It Improve Outcomes?

Despite national and international guidelines recommending intermittent auscultation during labor in low-risk, term pregnancies, an admission monitor tracing is ubiquitous in hospital settings in the U.S. Its use has increased in birth centers as well, often in response to client requests, pressure from collaborative physicians and hospitals, or medicolegal concerns.

Access the paper here:

## Volume 11, Issue 3: March 2026 CABC News Brief




### Another Tool to Add to Your Shoulder Dystocia Toolkit?

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## Volume 11, Issue 4: May 2026 CABC News Brief

### Is Hyponatremia on Your Radar During Labor?



While staying hydrated during labor is important, excessive water intake can lead to hyponatremia (plasma Na < 130mmol/L), a dangerous condition for both the laboring person and neonate.

Individuals in labor are at higher risk for hyponatremia because:

1. In 3rd trimester, the body is less efficient at excreting water (600ml/h
compared to 900ml/h in a healthy

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

- *Mat-Su Birth Center, Wasilla, AK (20 years)*
- *Juneau Family Health & Birth Center, Juneau, AK (20 years)*
- *Family Beginnings Birth Center, Dayton, OH (22 years)*
- *The Midwife Center for Birth & Women's Health, Pittsburgh, PA (23 years)*
- *Family Health & Birth Center,* Washington, D.C. (25 years)
- *Birth Care & Family Health Services*, Bart, PA (26 years)
- *Emerald Midwifery Consulting: The Birth Center*, Newark, DE (27 years)
- *Connecticut Childbirth & Women's Center*, Danbury, CT - (28 years)
- *Reading Midwife Center for Women's Wellness*, Reading, PA - (31 years)
- *BirthCare & Women's Health*, Alexandria, VA - (32 years)
- *The Midwifery Center at Tucson Medical Center*, Tucson, AZ (33 years)

Commission for the Accreditation of Birth Centers

*Supporting Standards & Inspiring Excellence through Learning*

# JOIN OUR TEAM

## CABC is seeking qualifed individuals to join our Board of Commissioners.

Applications are due Nov 8, 2026. Interested applicants should apply HERE.
Board service is a volunteer position.

### Role of a CABC Commissioner

- The Board of Commissioners is a group of experienced professionals who serve as volunteers to support and oversee the work of CABC as a nonprofit.
- Commissioners must have experience with the model of care used in birth centers and/or alongside midwifery units.
- Importantly, members have the highest ethical standards, a strong sense of professionalism and a dedication to serving the CABC accreditation process.




### Expectations:

- Uphold the mission, values, principles and policies of the CABC.
- Participate in strategic planning.
- Participate actively in at least one standing CABC committee and serve on ad-hoc committees as needed.
- Attend and participate in all board and committee meetings.
- Have knowledge of the CABC Indicators for Compliance with Standards for Birth Centers and CABC Alongside Midwifery Unit Standards and Indicators.
- Stay abreast of current issues and relevant research, trends in practice, and changes in regulatory standards and national guidelines.

Learn more about CABC accreditation at www.BirthCenterAccreditation.org

REGISTER NOW

# START YOUR ENGINES!

## 2026 AABC Birth Institute

**Driving Innovation in Birth Centers**

OCT 29 - NOV 1, 2026 | Indianapolis, IN

Sustainability. Leadership. Equity.



