



NEWS RELEASE

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American College of Nurse-Midwives Elects New Officers *New Jersey Midwife Elected to Serve Atlantic Region*

SILVER SPRING, MD – Dawn Durain, CNM, of Hopewell, NJ was elected as the **American College of Nurse-Midwives (ACNM)** Regional Representative for Delaware, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands. Regional representatives serve as the liaison between members and the organization's Board of Directors.

Durain is faculty and interim program director of the nurse-midwifery education program at the University of Pennsylvania School of Nursing in Philadelphia and is a part time clinician at Planned Parenthood of the Mercer Area, NJ.

Durain is dedicated to educating highly successful midwives. “My current professional focus is to help to prepare excellent new midwives who not only have solid clinical skills, but also a strong sense of their importance and power as women’s health care professionals in the United States and internationally,” she says. “I hope to inspire new midwives to seek opportunities to influence the nature of the health care provision and to change the lives of the women with whom they work. The social and political environment in our country requires us all to remain active and involved in local and national efforts to safeguard women’s options with regard to choice of a health care provider, place of birth, and honest and accurate information on women’s health issues. Nurse-midwives have always been committed to ‘listening’ to women; we must also be committed to speaking out and assuring that everyone’s voice is heard.”

Durain has been a midwife for 23 years, with a focus on expanding health care choices for women. She was the executive director of a free-standing and independently owned birth center, Familyborn, in Princeton, NJ and a teen health center. She represented birth centers as a member of the Board of Directors of the Maternal Child Health Consortium of Central New Jersey. As a faculty member, Durain co-created and teaches two new courses – *Maternal Child Health in the Americas* and *Women and Incarceration*.

Durain received her nurse midwifery certificate from the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey in 1984. She received her master’s in public health in 2000 from the same university.

Durain will be inducted to her three-year term at the ACNM 52nd Annual Meeting in Chicago, May 25-31, 2007.

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For more information or to arrange an interview with Dawn Durain, please contact Rebecca Jacob, ACNM Communications Manager at 240-485-1822 or via email at rjacob@acnm.org.

With roots dating to 1929, the American College of Nurse-Midwives is the oldest women's health care association in the U.S. ACNM's mission is to promote the health and well-being of women and infants within their families and communities through the development and support of the profession of midwifery as practiced by certified nurse-midwives and certified midwives. Midwives believe every individual has the right to safe, satisfying health care with respect for human dignity and cultural variations. More information about ACNM can be found at www.midwife.org.

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