



NEWS RELEASE

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ACNM Recognizes the International Day of the Midwife May 5, 2010

Silver Spring, MD—On the International Day of the Midwife, ACNM remains dedicated to improving the health of women and their families worldwide. According to the World Health Organization (WHO), 700,000 midwives and 47,000 physicians with obstetric skills are required to provide safe deliveries worldwide. Reaching those goals will require doubling the current number of trained midwives.

Tina Johnson, CNM, MS, ACNM's director of professional practice and health policy, said, "ACNM is committed to caring for mothers and their families through our advocacy and policy work."

ACNM Midwifery Advisor Lindsay Grenier, CNM, MPH, said, "Worldwide, midwives are the backbone of maternity and reproductive health care. ACNM provides technical support to many midwifery associations around the world, most recently in Afghanistan."

The ACNM Department of Global Outreach also supports the development of high-quality training programs for midwives in developing countries and assists in pairing organizations and projects that need midwifery expertise.

Many ACNM members engage in work ranging from disaster relief, such as in Haiti and Indonesia, to long-term development projects in education, public policy and quality improvement.

Next month, ACNM will host the ACNM 55th Annual Meeting & Exposition, which has a special international issues track for attendees. More than 1,200 certified nurse-midwives, certified midwives and women's health advocates will gather to discuss the latest research and debate policy agendas.

To learn more about midwifery in America, visit www.midwife.org. For more information about midwifery across the globe, visit the International Confederation of Midwives at www.internationalmidwives.org.

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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 newborns 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.

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