CERTIFIED MIDWIVES: INCREASE ACCESS TO HIGH QUALITY CARE

WHY RECOGNIZE THE CERTIFIED MIDWIFE?

- Over 50% of US counties have no maternity care provider, and approximately 78 million people in the US live in primary care provider shortage areas. Individuals in these communities either go without essential health services or travel long distances to see a healthcare provider.[1,2]
- Contrary to global maternal health trends, the US is facing a maternal health crisis: high and rising levels of maternal mortality and morbidity, stark racial disparities, high cost of medical care, and a shortage of OB providers projected to worsen in coming years.[3-6]
- Midwives are underutilized in our country compared to other countries with better outcomes. [7,8]

BE PART OF THE SOLUTION: SCALE UP MIDWIFERY

- Integrating midwives in healthcare systems increases access to high-quality care, improves outcomes, and reduces costs.[7,8]
- Licensure of Certified Midwives grows the women's health workforce and increases access to high-quality maternal, gynecologic, and primary care.

CERTIFIED MIDWIVES: HIGHLY EDUCATED

- Certified Midwives earn graduate degrees from midwifery education programs accredited by the Accreditation Commission for Midwifery Education (ACME).
- Certified Midwives are board certified by the American Midwifery Certification Board (AMCB).
- Certified Midwives (CMs) and Certified Nurse-Midwives (CNMs) master the same core competencies, sit for the same board exam, and have identical scopes of practice.[9]
- CM education programs attract candidates from diverse backgrounds and professions, broadening the midwifery profession.[10]

CERTIFIED MIDWIVES: NATIONALLY RECOGNIZED

- American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG) recognizes CMs and CNMs as equivalent providers and as experts in their field of practice.[11]
- Association of Women's Health, Obstetric and Neonatal Nurses (AWHONN) recognizes the equivalency of CM and CNM scope of practice and supports CM licensure in all states.[12]
- March of Dimes recognizes the equivalency of CM and CNM scope of practice and supports efforts to expand access to midwifery care.[13]
- National Uniform Claim Committee (NUCC) recognizes CMs and CNMs as identical credentials under the umbrella classification "Advanced Practice Midwife."[14]
- CMs are currently licensed in NY, NJ, RI, DE, ME, OK, VA, and HI. Numerous other states are pursuing recognition of CMs.

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