

The A.C.N.M. Foundation, Inc.

This has been an exciting year for The A.C.N.M. Foundation, Inc. (the Foundation)! **After 55 years as a charitable Supporting Organization to ACNM, the IRS redesignated the Foundation's 501c3 status to a full Public Charity status.** This upgrade was made possible because of the Foundation's long-term growth in terms of the variety of external donors and the expanding support for individual midwives, students, and other midwifery-related activities. This new development coincides with the strategic actions being taken by the Foundation Board and Staff to ensure ongoing strength and impact, prioritizing four areas: **(a) resource development and fundraising; (b) maximized organizational and operational efficiency; (c) enhanced and promoted diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) in everything we do; and (d) expanded understanding of our mission, programs, and impact through key partnerships.**

Obtaining full public charity status is a very exciting development for the Foundation and for the profession of midwifery. Options for external revenue sources are now unlimited. New partnerships will be explored to attract new donors in support of the Foundation's mission, which is to promote excellent health outcomes for all people and communities through the support of midwifery. The Foundation is also able to **reimagine** its relationship with ACNM, a collaborative process which has already begun. Examples include serving as fiscal agent for the Oklahoma Affiliate on a 2022 grant from the George Kaiser Family Foundation to support public policy education, and a 15-month capacity-building project funded by the Sparacio Foundation to ensure sustainable strength in the midwifery profession through the development of a renewed relationship between ACNM and the Foundation focusing on interorganizational and financial efficiency, and resource development and fundraising. New partnerships, new funding and new funding collaborations are anticipated to result in improved core operational strength and increased resources for the Foundation's mission programs that provide career-long advancement of midwives as well as for ACNM's strategic domestic and global midwifery initiatives.

The Foundation's virtual Management Team, now poised to meet the challenge of an independent organization, is led by Dr. Lisa Paine, CEO, and includes the visionary work of Dr. Maria Valentin-Welch, Chief Programs & DEI Officer; T. S. Deacon Economos, Director of the Office of Information Technology; and joined in 2022 by Gina Graham, MPH, Director of Strategic Partnerships in a shared role with ACNM. Through the work of this outstanding team, the Foundation **has doubled its support to individual midwives and student midwives since 2018.** Support for individual midwives now amounts **to over \$150,000 annually, with more than half supporting diversity in the midwifery workforce and profession.** Please see the [A.C.N.M. Foundation, Inc. 2021 Yearbook](#), which shows how these ideals were advanced in that year alone and watch for the **2022 A.C.N.M. Foundation Yearbook** which is forthcoming. Thank you for your support.

"Preparation of the next generation of midwives for the myriad of challenges they are certain to face depends on the generosity of individuals across the profession to help meet the commitment of the Foundation to Changing Lives One Gift at a Time." Holly Kennedy, PhD, CNM, FACNM, FAAN, President of A.C.N.M. Foundation Board of Trustees

For more information, contact The A.C.N.M. Foundation, Inc. at foundation@acnmf.org or visit: www.acnmf.org. All donations are tax-deductible as allowed by law.