



Contact: Kelly Roberts, MSN
Founding Partner
The Midwife Solution: *Advancing midwifery for women's health*
(978) 505-2692
kelly@midwifesolution.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Hospital Midwives Convene to Move Midwifery Forward in Massachusetts

West Boylston, MA - September 28, 2017 - The Midwife Solution held the first ever Massachusetts Midwives Summit on September 26, 2017 at Cyprian Keyes Golf Club in West Boylston, MA. Seventy nurse midwives were in attendance, from every region of Massachusetts, as well as CT, ME, NH and RI. Eighty percent of Massachusetts maternity hospitals offering midwifery care for childbirth were represented.



The Massachusetts Midwives Summit was a signature, spring-boarding event aimed at increasing access to midwives at Massachusetts maternity hospitals. Midwifery care has been identified as a vital solution to address the increasing number of American women experiencing severe birth complications, and even death, as a result of unnecessary medical interventions like cesarean sections.

The day long event featured Massachusetts-based midwife speakers, including nationally recognized experts and local midwife practice innovators. The annual ACNM MA Affiliate Business meeting was held during lunch.

Participants were able to incorporate knowledge gained during the day in facilitated SWOT workshops that identified steps to:

- increase Massachusetts-based education programs to train new midwives
- increase midwives in the workforce and diversify the midwifery workforce
- develop midwifery leadership and business training opportunities
- ensure pay equity and insurance coverage reimbursement for midwifery care
- eliminate health disparities and promote social and racial justice

“I feel better informed and armed to make a difference in my practice,” commented one midwife. Several participants mentioned they are looking forward to the next Summit.

The Summit was organized by midwives Michele Helgeson and Kelly Roberts, founding partners of The Midwife Solution: Advancing Midwifery for Women’s Health. The Midwife Solution thanks the American College of Nurse Midwives (ACNM) Foundation for a Thacher Community Health grant, and the MA ACNM Affiliate for co-sponsoring the Summit.

To learn more about the Massachusetts Midwives Summit, please contact Kelly Roberts at (978) 505-2692 or kelly@midwifesolution.org.