2018 YEAR IN REVIEW

A REFLECTION ON A YEAR THAT WAS FILLED WITH NEW ENERGY AND GREAT SUCCESSES. IN THIS DIGEST, WE HIGHLIGHT A HANDFUL OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND AREAS OF FOCUS IN 2018.

DECEMBER 31, 2018
We came, we spoke, we made a difference!

It was a banner year for the American College of Nurse-Midwives (ACNM), midwives, and the larger maternal health stakeholder community. After years of active lobbying, ACNM successfully won three major legislative victories due to the tireless efforts of staff, volunteer leaders, members, and student advocates. **THANK YOU** for taking the time to urge support when prompted by one of ACNM’s countless grassroots call-to-action campaigns. It was your personal messages to legislators, phone calls urging support, and in-person meetings with legislative staff that carried passage of these legislative wins to the finish line. Great achievements are made by a series of small things brought together!

Here are our 2018 advocacy accomplishments:

- **Passage of the Substance Use-Disorder Prevention that Promotes Opioid Recovery and Treatment (SUPPORT) for Patients and Communities Act** – expands prescriptive authority of medication-assisted treatment (MAT) to certified nurse-midwives for a period of five years.

- **Passage of the Improving Access to Maternity Care Act** – mandates that the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) identify maternity
care shortage areas in existing primary care health professional shortage areas (HPSA) and creates a maternity care HPSA sub-designation, thereby enabling CNMs participating in the National Health Service Corps to be deployed to provide maternity and primary health care services.

- Passage of the Preventing Maternal Deaths Act – allocates $12 million in funding to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to help states establish and/or strengthen maternal mortality review committees.

Looking ahead to 2019 and the 116th session of Congress, ACNM will be focused on the following 2019 strategic work priorities as identified by our volunteer leaders, Board of Directors, national office staff, and feedback from our membership:

**Strategic Goal 1: Reducing Barriers to the Midwifery Model of Care**

1. Support state affiliates in their pursuit of legislative and regulatory reforms, which seek to eliminate unnecessary and costly supervision and collaborative agreement requirements and support of efforts that seek to establish equity in Medicaid reimbursement.

2. Support the certified midwives in efforts to establish a licensure mechanism for CMs in states that have expressed an interest and in states where CNMs have full practice authority.

3. Modernize policy surrounding facility credentialing and privileging of midwives by pursuing legislation to amend the existing Medicare statute to include CNMs/CMs in the definition of medical staff. Since a majority of ACNM’s membership (and CNMs/CMs at large) practice in clinical settings, this issue has been identified as a top one by leadership for the 116th session of Congress.

4. Work to obtain recognition of the CM credential in federal statute.
**Strategic Goal 2: Increasing the Midwifery Workforce**

**Federal Activity:** Introduce a midwifery “best evidence” workforce bill in Congress. The legislation would:

1. Establish a funding stream within Title VIII specific to Advanced Midwifery Education Grants – funding would go to university-based accredited schools of midwifery.

2. Ensure midwives who work in OB training and teaching facilities and oversee services performed by medical residents can be explicitly reimbursed for conducting those services by updating the Medicare statute to include CNMs/CMs as eligible for reimbursement under Medicare’s Graduate Medical Education program.

3. Establish a pilot project for reimbursing CNMs/CMs for training/supervising student midwives (e.g., Graduate Midwifery Education demonstration project similar to the Graduate Nurse Education demonstration within the Affordable Care Act).


**Strategic Goal 3: Strengthening Internal and External Communications**

- Develop a “full practice authority” state legislative toolkit for affiliates. Toolkit will include materials to help promote and advance midwifery as practiced by CNMs/CMs across the continuum of care and will include a “best practices” document related to negotiating with organized medicine on issues related to scope of practice.

- Implement a branding campaign to brand ACNM on Capitol Hill as a leader in maternal and women’s health. Campaign materials can be repurposed for use at the state and local level to help increase awareness of the midwifery model of care as practiced by CNMs/CMs.
SAVE THE DATE: 2019 Annual Meeting & Exhibition

The upcoming 64th ACNM Annual Meeting and Exhibition will be held from May 18-22, 2019 at the Gaylord National Resort & Convention Center, just outside of Washington, DC in Oxon Hill, MD. The meeting will focus on “Advocating for Health Equity.” A highlight of the event will be “Hill Day,” when midwives from across the country will join together to lobby their legislators on Capitol Hill.

Our Program Committee and national office team have been hard at work to ensure that this upcoming Annual Meeting meets the needs of the membership. We hope to accomplish this by maximizing opportunities for attendees to earn CEs through educational sessions and presentations or workshops. Also, two special events have been scheduled for Saturday, May 18, an ACNM Future Midwives gathering from 4 - 6 pm, ET and the Heart of Midwifery/Student Welcome Circle from 5:45 - 6:30 pm, ET.

Registration Opening Soon! Click Here to Learn More
2018 Annual Meeting & Exhibition

The 63rd Annual Meeting & Exhibition, held in Savannah, GA from May 20-24, 2018, was our largest ever, and included more than 80 continuing education sessions. The event featured an all-new Racism and Health Disparities track to help address health inequities among people of color. The Premier Speaker was Terri Coates, the renowned British midwife who inspired the celebrated television series, “Call the Midwife.” She also serves as midwifery adviser on the series.

Midwifery Works

Midwifery Works 2018, held in Ft. Lauderdale, FL, shone a spotlight on the business of midwifery and offered various tools to the midwife-in-practice for successful enhancement of management and leadership. This year, the Billing and Coding Tips Workshop, taught by Joan Slager, CNM, CPC, DNP, FACNM, MSN, was a big hit.

Next year’s meeting will be held October 26-28, 2019 in Phoenix, AZ. The abstract portal will open in January 2019, and we encourage all members to consider submitting an abstract.
For those who may not be familiar with the MPEGO Department, our scope includes (but is not limited to) guidance on endorsements and research documents, CE approval for ACNM conferences, domestic and global grant management, representation of ACNM at various partner and community meetings, collaboration with other professional organizations, and answering questions from members and the public on topics such as risk management and liability, politics, leadership, and clinical practice.

MPEGO partnerships continue with the Alliance for Innovation in Maternal Health (AIM), the University of Alaska regarding Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders, with ACOG regarding immunization, and through the Interprofessional Education (IPE) project. We have ongoing global partnerships in Jordan, Malawi, Nepal, and Nigeria and have a large new maternal-newborn project within Madagascar!

In early 2019, ACNM will launch the Core Data Survey project. Please plan to participate, as this updated information will be helpful in answering questions regarding our workforce. In addition, the updated Pearls of Midwifery and Getting Paid publications will be released in early 2019.
Thank you to our new CEO, Sheri Sesay-Tuffour, PhD, CAE, and all of our hardworking staff. We are here to serve our members and are committed to providing you with the excellent service you well deserve. Reach out to us anytime!

Financial Stability
Upon the new CEO’s arrival in June 2018, we turned our full attention to improving and stabilizing financial operations, which significantly fell behind due to years of turnover in two critical areas of the organization – executive leadership and finance. ACNM engaged an outsourcing finance firm to assess its financial infrastructure and propose recommendations to assure ongoing stability. The firm assisted with the rapid closing of 2017 financials, preparing 2017 audit and tax documents, and reconciling January - June 2018 financial transactions. In tandem, the CEO identified core competencies and behaviors required of a sustainable Finance Department. Two new finance staff were hired in late Fall 2018 to support the existing senior accountant: Vice President of Finance Marc Rucker, MBA, and Controller Lisa Zeng, CPA, MBA. With the full support of the Board and staff, the new finance team expeditiously assumed their role in developing systemic finance procedures that support ACNM operations, reconciling third quarter financials, preparing 2018 year-end projections, and leading the 2019 budget process.

Stay tuned for a special report from the CEO covering what's been happening at the national office since her arrival and what’s ahead for 2019.
Look for Midwifery Now e-newsletter in Your Email

Beginning in 2019, the ACNM Digest will receive a redesign resulting in better visual delivery of content and a new name: Midwifery Now. The first issue was launched via email on January 14, 2019.

Quickening Goes Digital

Members, we hear you. You’ve told us that reading Quickening in a PDF format can be challenging. That’s why, this coming February 2019, we’ll be launching Quickening on an all-new responsive website that you can easily read and follow on your phone, mobile device, or computer. Articles will be posted in real time and contributing will be easier than ever. Additionally, for our print subscribers, we’ll be producing two “best of” print editions each year, and they will have their Quickening subscriptions extended if they have more than two issues left on their subscription.

Stay tuned for more details, coming soon!

ACNM Connect

This past year saw great strides made in the number of ACNM members utilizing ACNM Connect, the best way to stay up to date on all the latest news, conversations, and stories being shared by the ACNM staff and fellow members. Over half of our membership (56%) were actively engaged in the most talked about posts, which included the ARRIVE Trial and denied passports at the US-Mexico border, just to name a few.

If you have yet to use this membership asset, not to worry! We have a handy resource guide that will easily walk you through the steps to begin communicating with ACNM members from around the country in 2019.

Click Here to Get Started
National Midwifery Week
#midwivesmakeadifference

This year’s event (held from September 30 - October 6, 2018) was a TREMENDOUS success! Look at just a few of the wonderful photos that were shared via social media:

During this time, the ACNM national office held an open house event wherein we invited local midwives to join us for a celebratory meet and greet.
'Volunteers 411' Webinar

On November 14th, ACNM staff and volunteer leaders held a highly informative 'Volunteers 411' webinar, which provided information on our various divisions, committees, and task forces, and how to get involved.

If you were unable to attend, not to worry! We recorded the event and are happy to share it with all of you, along with a downloadable version of the slides. As you watch the presentation, please take note of the many volunteer openings currently available to members on each of the groups' PowerPoint slides. Find volunteer leaders’ email addresses on Connect or you can contact Hedy Ross, ACNM Director of Membership & Communications, at hross@acnm.org.

[Download the PowerPoint Slides]

A recorded ‘Volunteers 411’ Presentation is available to ACNM members. Please contact membership@acnm.org for the link.

ACOG Affiliate Membership

ACNM and the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG) partnered once again this year to offer ACNM members a discounted ACOG Educational Affiliate Membership. This member benefit aligns with our core commitment of interprofessionalism and strategic goals to enhance membership benefits and value. Enrollment was held between August 1 – September 30, 2018. A total of 276 members took advantage.

2018 Award Winners
ACNM extends warm congratulations to the amazing midwives whose achievements, leadership, innovation, and expertise were recognized this year at the 2018 ACNM Award Ceremony. From our “young whippersnapper” to outstanding preceptors and teachers, we appreciate and celebrate your diverse skills, talents, and accomplishments!

View Our 2018 Award Winners

ACNM is also delighted to honor and acknowledge our student members and professional midwives whose achievements have merited scholarships, fellowship, and other awards through the A.C.N.M. Foundation during 2019.

View Foundation Scholarship & Fellowship Winners

Donate to the A.C.N.M. Foundation

There’s no better way to support midwives and ACNM’s strategic goals than to donate to ACNM’s charitable arm - the A.C.N.M. Foundation. Jointly, the CEOs of ACNM and the A.C.N.M. Foundation urge ACNM members to ‘feel the glow of giving’ by donating to the organization that powers the profession of midwifery.

Donate Today!

Other Donation Options

Congratulations, Fellows!
We congratulate the 43 new midwives named 2018 ACNM Fellows. Fellowship in ACNM honors midwives whose demonstrated leadership, clinical excellence, outstanding scholarship, and professional achievements have merited special recognition.

**View the 2018 Fellows**

**Industry Partners**

Thank you to our 2018 Industry Partners who, through their financial support, exhibited their commitment to midwifery and advancement of the ACNM mission. [Click here](#) to learn more about becoming an ACNM Industry Partner.
And a dear 'Thank You' to our members!

Without your continued support of midwifery, none of our achievements and services could be possible.

LEARN MORE ABOUT ACNM MEMBERSHIP!

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