

**Ballot Question 1: What makes you qualified for this position? Why are you interested in this position?**

I have over 20 years of experience in women's and newborn care. I am a practicing midwife with experience in leadership, quality improvement, policy writing and implementation, advocacy, government affairs, and media relations at the local, state, and national level. I am interested in this position because I am passionate about advancing the profession of midwifery and increasing access to midwifery care—especially in rural areas, underserved areas, and maternity care deserts. I believe that every person deserves the best health care available, and I enjoy working in innovative ways to meet the unique needs of underserved women and gender diverse individuals in urban and rural communities. I am committed to ensuring that midwives not only have a seat at the table, but that they have an equitable voice in the decision-making process. I feel my background in rural health care would lend unique perspective to the ACNM Board of Directors as the Region IV Representative.

**Ballot Question 2: Visit ACNM's Strategic Plan [HERE](#). What part of the strategic plan embodies your personal philosophy?**

My personal philosophy is best reflected in Goal 3 of the ACNM 2021-2024 Strategic Plan. This goal focuses on the advancement of midwives within affiliates through policy, advocacy, and affiliate support. I believe the ACNM must strive to engage all midwives and that the state affiliates are essential to this process. As the Region IV Representative, I would encourage open communication with the Region IV affiliates through regular zoom meetings and emails. I will bring concerns to the forefront and work diligently to support the midwives of Region IV at a local, state and national level.

**Ballot Question 3: Visit the Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging (DEIB) [HERE](#). What ideas do you have for enhancing diversity, equity, inclusion, and belonging?**

Utilizing the ACNM's Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging Strategic Plan as a guide, I would encourage state affiliates to develop their own Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging action plans to address the needs of the communities they serve. By employing the knowledge and toolkits available to us, we can make change happen.

**Ballot Question 4: What is your vision for innovation and improvement within ACNM?**

I would like to see a greater use of technology to unite, involve, educate, empower, and generate interest among the members of ACNM. Now is the time to utilize our collective expertise to rebuild and reimagine the future of ACNM. I would like to see platforms in place that allows mass collaboration.

**Ballot Question 5: What are two improvements that ACNM should prioritize and how would you help address them in your role?**

At this time, financial stewardship and increased membership should be the top priorities of the ACNM. The future success of the ACNM is dependent on moral, ethical, and prudent financial decision-making. As the Region IV representative I would encourage financial transparency to the membership and partnership with financial professionals to improve the current financial situation. I believe we should endeavor to evaluate the financial consequences of changing or eliminating any existing activities/programs or adding new activities and would encourage other board members to do the same. The ACNM should also prioritize efforts to increase membership. These efforts could include local action among state affiliates to investigate declining membership and generate creative action plans specific to their affiliate needs.