

## Recruitment

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Have you been asked to represent midwifery at a career fair or speak to a group about a career in midwifery? Are you interested in reaching out to encourage minority and disadvantaged students to consider career opportunities in the health professions? Are you interested in recruiting students to your midwifery education program? This document will point you toward resources that will help.

### ACNM Web Site

The ACNM *Become A Midwife* web page ([http://www.midwife.org/become\\_midwife.cfm](http://www.midwife.org/become_midwife.cfm)) has a wealth of information for high school and college students, nurses, or anyone interested in a career change.

### Kids Into Health Careers Initiative

Operating through the Health Resources and Services Administrations (HRSA) Bureau of Health Professions (BHP), the Kids Into Health Careers Initiative has a four fold message:

- There are job opportunities in the health care field
- Qualifying for them is an achievable and rewarding goal
- Financial aid is available
- This work fills a critical need in many medically underserved communities where primarily minority and disadvantaged people are not getting the health care they need.

*Certified nurse-midwives are one of 13 health careers highlighted in this initiative!*

There are 4 target groups. A separate sample presentation has been prepared for each of the targeted groups, but each has the same aim -- to impress upon educators, students in grades 6-12 and K-5, and their families that health care jobs are available and attainable. Each presentation includes talking points and visual aids. Information on this program is available at <http://bhpr.hrsa.gov/kidscareers/> or phone 301-443-2100.

### Johnson & Johnson Campaign for Nursing's Future

Enrollment in nursing degree programs has fallen 17 percent over the last five years. Adding to the problem, registered nurses are leaving the profession at an ever-increasing rate. All of this is happening as the largest single generation in our nation's history reaches its age of greatest health care need. To address the nursing shortage, Johnson & Johnson has launched a \$20 million, multi-year nationwide campaign in support of the nursing profession. "We believe nursing is the essence of caring and feel it is critical to help resolve the deepening nursing shortage in America." A video, attractive color brochures and posters are all available free of charge by dialing 1-888-981-9111, or by visiting [www.discovernursing.com](http://www.discovernursing.com).

### Midwifery Education Programs

Many of the ACNM accredited midwifery education programs have developed brochures and other recruitment materials. Contact the programs directly, using the listing of education programs available on the ACNM web site at <http://www.midwife.org/map.cfm>.

### Books

The following books may be of interest to persons considering a career in midwifery, and/or may be used to begin a discussion about midwifery.

***Baby Catcher: Chronicles of a Modern Midwife*** by Peggy Vincent

Peggy Vincent became a CNM after 15 years as a delivery room nurse, 10 years as a natural childbirth teacher, and 3 years as the director of an alternative birth center in Berkeley, CA.

This book is a memoir of her years doing both home births and hospital births, a career that was cut short by fallout from a lawsuit.

***Diary of a Midwife*** by Juliana Van Olphen-Fehrr.

Based on the author's years of experience as nurse-midwife, this book shows how women with low-risk pregnancies can be cared for by a midwife, allowing them to take control of the birth process and avoid costly and traumatic interventions of drugs and surgery. Juliana Van Olphen-Fehrr is a certified nurse-midwife and coordinator of the nurse-midwifery graduate education program at Shenandoah College in Virginia.

***A Midwife's Story*** by Penny Armstrong

This book begins with Penny Armstrong's middle-of-the-night realization that she wants to be a midwife; by the time the book is over, she has delivered more than one thousand babies and experienced a dramatic change in both her daily life and her beliefs.

***Midwife's Apprentice*** by Karen Cushman

This children's book about a homeless waif among the rural brutishness of Medieval England won the 1995 Newbery Award and is widely read in elementary schools. In a short afterpiece, Cushman explains the history and progress of midwifery in a concise way suitable to the book's young readers.

***Paths to Becoming a Midwife: Getting an Education*** (3<sup>rd</sup> ed) Jan Tritten and Jennifer

Rosenberg, eds.

This book is particularly helpful to those interested in the growing debate over professionalization of direct-entry midwifery. It is designed specifically as a guide to those considering all of the many routes to midwifery.

***Sisters on a Journey: Portraits of American Midwives*** by Penfield Chester and Sarah Chester McKusick

This book is a collection of 27 profiles – interviews and photographs – of contemporary American midwives. They speak about what brought them to midwifery and the paths they chose.

***Wide Neighborhoods: A Story of the Frontier Nursing Service*** by Mary Breckenridge.

The ACNM "QuickInfo" series was developed by the Department of Professional Services to respond to common inquiries, summarizing ACNM resources regarding a particular topic, as well as listing selected literature and a variety of other resources. Your feedback is welcomed; contact Professional Services at 240-485-1800 or [info@acnm.org](mailto:info@acnm.org) . 9/27/2002

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