

# ***CERTIFIED NURSE-MIDWIVES IN OKLAHOMA***

## **Nurse-Midwifery in Oklahoma**

- Certified Nurse-Midwives (CNMs) have been practicing in Oklahoma since 1980. The first nurse-midwifery practice was at the Indian Health Service facility.
- CNMs in Oklahoma practice in a variety of settings including hospitals, universities, Indian Health Services, public health departments, private practices, and birth centers.

## **Statistics**

- There are approximately 46 CNMs currently living in Oklahoma.
- There are 20 nurse-midwifery practice sites in Oklahoma.
- In 2004, Oklahoma CNMs attended the births of 1,762 babies, which is 5.1% of all births in Oklahoma for that year.

## **Education**

- There are currently 43 accredited education programs in the United States offering post-baccalaureate certificate and masters degree programs in nurse-midwifery and midwifery. A number of these programs have distance learning education options.
- Although there are no programs in Oklahoma, there is a graduate program in nurse-midwifery at the University of Kansas.
- For more information, see <http://www.midwife.org/map.cfm>.

## **Practice and Reimbursement Issues**

- Nurse-midwifery in Oklahoma is regulated by the Board of Nursing.
- Oklahoma Governor Henry Bellmon recommended in his 1989 report titled "A Brighter Future" that education resources support the training of Certified Nurse-Midwives and that barriers to their practice be investigated and removed.
- CNMs in Oklahoma have prescriptive authority.
- Oklahoma does not mandate third-party reimbursement. They are reimbursed through Medicaid at 100% of physician levels.

This information was provided by the midwives of Oklahoma.

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