



NEWS RELEASE

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NURSE-MIDWIVES PRESENT BLANKETS FOR BABIES™ TO CHICAGO WOMEN'S ORGANIZATIONS

Chicago, Ill. – Women, newborns and families in the Chicago area will benefit from the contributions of new and handmade blankets during the American College of Nurse-Midwives (ACNM) annual Blankets for Babies™ public service campaign during the ACNM 52nd Annual Meeting & Exhibit in Chicago, Ill. Three area women's health organizations will receive the blankets, which are donated by certified nurse-midwives, certified midwives, student nurse-midwives, exhibitors and other meeting guests.

Donated blankets will be given to:

- **Chicago Abused Women's Coalition (CAWC)** programs provide shelter and support services to women and their children who are victims of domestic violence. All CAWC services are based on a philosophy of self-help and are designed to empower women to enhance their safety and well being. Since CAWC's inception as the first domestic violence program in Chicago, the agency has served over 26,000 women and children; provided 790,000 meals; 218,500 nights of lifesaving refuge through Greenhouse Shelter, and over 500,000 hours of counseling and education.
- In January 2007, the **Marillac House Health & Wellness Center (MHWC)** opened its doors to the Marillac Community. The MHWC is a unique facility designed to meet the primary and community health care needs of the Marillac Community. Its vision is to be the interdisciplinary health care resource for the Marillac House Community, facilitating the attainment of optimal health, and bridging the Marillac Community and health care system for health and wellness.
- The **Infant Welfare Society of Chicago** has an almost century-long track record of meeting the health needs of Chicago's low-income, underserved women and children. Infant Welfare was established in 1911 as a network of storefront "depots" that distributed clean milk to children across Chicago. Over time, Infant Welfare evolved into a model of comprehensive health care delivery, offering an array of community-based services elsewhere not available in a single setting: well-child care through age 19; developmental assessment and support services from birth to age 3 (the Healthy Steps Program); child/adolescent mental health care; pediatric dentistry; optometry; and for women, prenatal, family planning, preventive care and chronic disease management.

ACNM offers special thanks to ACNM members and GlaxoSmithKline Consumer Healthcare and TUMS for their generous donations.

The ACNM **Blankets for Babies™** national public service campaign seeks to greet local area newborns with a warm, new blanket in the host city of their Annual Meeting & Exhibit each year. ACNM launched the Blankets for Babies™ campaign in April 2000.

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For more information, please contact Rebecca Jacob, ACNM Communications Manager at (240) 485-1822 or via email at rjacob@acnm.org.

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