

## Ballot Questionnaire: Linda McDaniel, Nominating Committee Candidate

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

I am interested in serving on the nominating committee to learn more about the organization and encourage others to become actively invested in the organization. Also, I believe serving on this committee will increase my knowledge of the different areas of the organization to assist in recruiting and promoting current and potential members on how they can play a role in these initiatives. I have played active roles in recruiting others to participate in other initiatives where individuals were able to not only satisfy a personal goal but were able to play an integral role helping a committee or organization achieve a goal.

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

Supporting the affiliate members is crucial to increase not only awareness but a level of unity and cohesiveness of members within the states, regions, and national level. I am aware most states only have one chapter located in either the capital or most significant city in their state. Although this can reach a large group of individuals, this design does not allow for current and potential members to play an active role and have a "voice" bringing awareness to concerns that plague their communities that may be different from the communities located in the larger cities. I would like to see our affiliate chapters grow and expand where innovative ideas can be generated and allow for members who never attended a member will be able to attend and play an active role.

**Ballot Question 3: What ideas do you have for enhancing diversity and inclusion?**

I believe we are in precarious times with current social and political turmoil of division. I would like to create an environment of transparency where all individuals feel included and develop educational opportunities where others can develop a new appreciation of all persons. I understand there may be some inherent biases/opinions/views that may not be completely alleviated but the training and dialogue allow everyone to develop a new perspective and appreciation of others. I would like to see focus groups where we delve deeper into this area and get a better understanding of the needs of our members. I would like to create campaigns or initiatives where all persons are able to participate to increase diversity and inclusion. I would like to develop a communication work plan where every voice is welcomed, heard, and respected.

**Ballot Question 4: What innovation or improvement would you bring to ACNM?**

Creating a strong midwifery network that is representative of all individuals in their communities will require innovation of engagement. This engagement strategy may include collecting data for geographic areas within a state to understand the needs of the state, region, and national levels. Additionally, this data will provide insight into the possibility of establishing additional chapters or groups that make up an active midwifery network where we can deepen our understanding of the midwifery art, lean and support others, and grow professionally. Dissemination and access to information is key to increasing awareness of the organization benefits, opportunities, and resources. I believe these are crucial elements for the organization to consider and move forward in developing campaign initiatives where non-members and members are more actively involved not only nationally but in their communities.