

History

In 1982, the Midwives Alliance of North America was established as a non-profit (501 c 6) professional organization for all midwives. MANA grew out of a grassroots coalition of diverse types of midwives including nurse-midwives, lay midwives, direct-entry midwives, and traditional midwives from across North America. The impetus to create MANA was a desire to establish a professional home for all midwives that would recognize and honor the diversity of educational backgrounds and practice styles within the profession.

Mission Statement

The Midwives Alliance of North America (MANA) is a professional midwifery association uniquely positioned to unite and strengthen all midwives through dedication to innovative education, professional development, and recognized autonomous practice.

MANA is committed to enabling transformative research, promoting an evidence-based midwifery model of care, addressing health disparities, and achieving optimal outcomes through normal physiologic birth and healthcare across the lifespan. (revised Spring 2014)

Vision Statement

MANA envisions a world where every person, in the setting of their choice, has access to high quality midwifery care provided by culturally safe, autonomous, community based midwives. (revised Spring 2014)

Goals

- To engage midwives in dialog and to encourage solidarity across North America
- To recognize the diversity among midwives and to foster inclusive community building
- To build an identity as a cohesive organization representing the profession as well as the tradition of midwifery at regional, national and international levels
- To position midwives as acknowledged authorities, working to improve perinatal health in collaboration with other professionals
- To collect and disseminate high quality research about midwifery care
- To promote excellence in midwifery practice
- To sponsor continuing education opportunities for midwives
- To increase access to midwives in all settings
- To endorse the Midwives Model of Care™ as the gold standard for childbirth
- To affirm the rights of pregnant women to give birth where and with whom they choose