

Our Hearts are Full of Gratitude

Each and every day (and night) midwives and other birth workers answer the call to serve childbearing people here and around the world. We know you are dedicated to your work and that you care about the future of midwifery - thank you! The coming year holds great promise as we plan for the CPM Symposium 2018 in May. More than 200 people have responded to our invitation to participate in the planning by completing the survey distributed this month. In January we will be able report the results. Coming together like this, we will create a shared vision of how to move the CPM profession forward and positively impact the care for all people having babies. In the meantime, we hope you will also enjoy time with your own friends and family in this season of holidays.



Save the Dates - Upcoming Webinars!

Midwives - What You Need to Know about Becoming a CPM and Completing the Bridge Certificate - January 17, 2017, 1:00 to 2:30 Eastern Time

[Register Now](#)

Dynamic new opportunities have emerged in recent years to grow the CPM profession to truly meet the needs of the childbearing population. The landscape is changing and it will be increasingly important for midwives to obtain the national CPM credential and complete the NARM Bridge Certificate. This webinar will provide you with all the information you need to make the decision and take action for your future and the future of the midwifery profession.

Ida Darragh, CPM and Executive Director of NARM
will describe the ins and outs of the Midwifery Bridge



Ida Darragh

Certificate, as well as information about the experienced midwife route and how state-licensed midwives can, in most cases, easily become CPMs. By the end of Ida's presentation, the Midwifery Bridge Certificate will no longer be a mystery to you. **Vicki Penwell, CPM of Mercy in Action Midwifery School** will share why she is so committed to the Midwifery



Vicki Penwell

Bridge Certificate as a tool for advancing the profession and increasing people's access to midwives that she developed courses that fulfill all the requirements for the certificate, supports midwives with the Bridge Certificate application, and takes her courses around the country so midwives can access them in their own communities.



Mary Lawlor

Whether it's addressing equity in the profession, achieving federal recognition and state licensure, or expanding reimbursement and employment opportunities, CPMs are on the move. NACPM believes that the opportunities for CPMs have never been greater: to serve more people, to be more relevant to the changing needs and demographics of the childbearing population, to be of more service in eliminating racial inequities in care, and to infuse the systems of care with CPM knowledge, experience, and

values. **Mary Lawlor, CPM and Executive Director of NACPM**, will describe how recommendations made in NACPM's briefing papers *Midwifery Landscape* and *Future Directions* (live link to the papers) will position midwives and students to meet this exciting emerging future: midwives who are not yet CPMs should become CPMs now; midwives who been trained in non-accredited programs should fulfill the Midwifery Bridge Certificate; and anyone wanting to become a CPM should carefully examine their options for education in light of this changing landscape.

Battling Over Birth: Our Broken Maternal Health Care System and What We Can Do - January 31, 2017, 12:30 to 2:00 Eastern Time
(note this webinar time is earlier than others in the series)



Dr. Chinyere Oparah

Battling Over Birth, a new human rights report from **Black Women Birthing Justice**, shares stories from over 100 women who recently gave birth in California. The report reveals the culture of fear and coercion that has transformed birth into a battleground, a deep lack of trust of our hospitals, and a broken maternal health-care system that fails too many black women. **Chinyere Oparah, PhD**, co-author of the report, will describe the report and recommendations that should be a blueprint for action in every community!

Registration coming soon!

And there's more!

Neonatal Mortality: Preventable Deaths in Community Birth Settings

February 21, 2017, 1:00 to 2:30 Eastern Time.

Co-sponsored by NACPM and MANA, this webinar will explore the findings from a study designed to examine all fetal and neonatal deaths recorded in MANA Stats between 2004 and 2015. A more detailed description and link to registration will be available in January. Speaker: **Melissa Cheyney, PhD, CPM, LDM.**



Don't forget to check out NACPM's archived [webinars](#), including NACPM's [4th Virtual Annual Meeting](#) from this past week on **December 15th!**

Webinar recordings, presentation slides, and other resources are available for every webinar and, for a modest fee, you can also earn [MEAC approved CEUs!](#) Below is a summary of just one of the excellent webinars offered this fall.

Understanding and Reducing Maternal Stress and Preterm Birth in Puerto Rico

In the November 2017 NACPM webinar, [RE:BIRTH: Navigating and Mediating Maternal Stress and Birth Outcomes in Pre- and Post-Hurricane Puerto Rico](#), Oregon State University researchers **Holly Horan** and **Melissa Cheyney** discussed their collaborative research that focuses on the relationship between perceived maternal stress and gestational age at delivery. Existing research hypothesizes an association between perceived maternal stress and preterm birth, and midwifery care has been shown to be the only viable solution to reducing preterm birth rates within communities of color. Horan and Cheyney collaborated with Puerto Rican maternal and infant health providers to develop a project to better understand experiences of maternal stress and pregnancy and how they relate to birth outcomes in Puerto Rico.

[Read More...](#)



HAPPY HOLIDAYS to all - we look forward to connecting and working with you in the New Year!

NACPM

*The future begins with
the way we are born*

Join NACPM!

STAY CONNECTED



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