

## **Symposium Newsletter January 19, 2018**

Excitement is building for the 2018 CPM Symposium! The Program Committee is hard at work, incorporating your input to design a gathering that will inspire and guide future of the CPM profession (see survey results below). Early bird registration will open soon!

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### **2018 CPM Symposium Survey Results- Executive Summary**

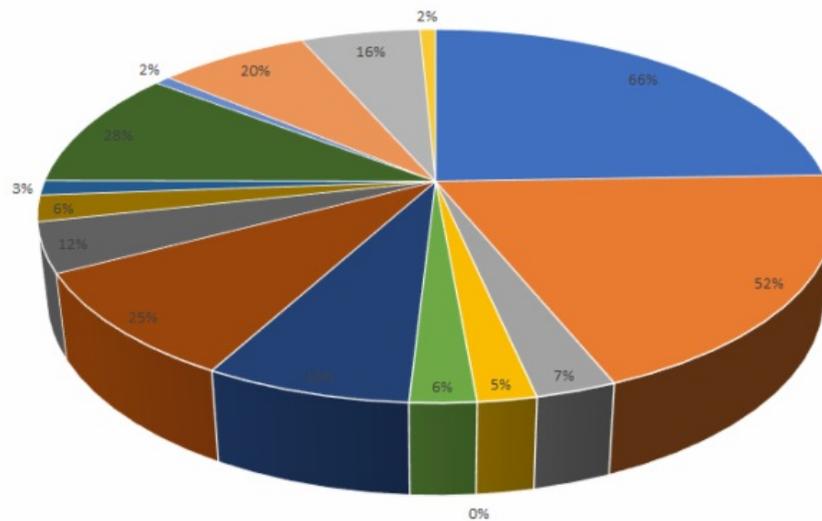
NACPM envisions the 2018 CPM Symposium as a shared, community-derived, multi-stakeholder process. Recently, we asked for your ideas on shaping the symposium through a brief survey. You rose to the occasion! In total, we received 234 responses! We so appreciate you taking time to provide your valuable thoughts.

The next phase of symposium planning is underway with your priorities informing structure and flow of the symposium, speakers who can provide context and new information, and what we hope might result from our time together. We will also reach out for additional feedback from stakeholder groups and provide newsletter and webinar updates throughout the spring. Here is a short summary of select survey results:

### ***Who Participated?***

The majority of respondents were midwives. We also had several other perspectives integrated, from consumers to student midwives to educators to allied professionals.

Survey Participants

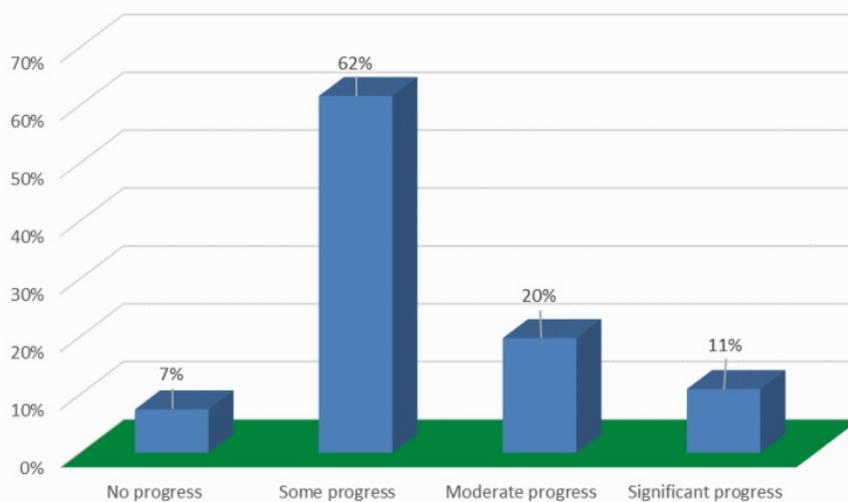


- CPM
- CNM/CM
- Physician
- Doula
- Other health care provider (includes CLC, IBCLC)
- Policymaker
- Funder
- Student (student midwife or related)
- Licensed Midwife
- Non-credentialed community or traditional midwife
- Nurse
- Childbirth educator
- Researcher
- Educator
- Concerned Citizen/Consumer/Childbearing person
- Other (please specify)

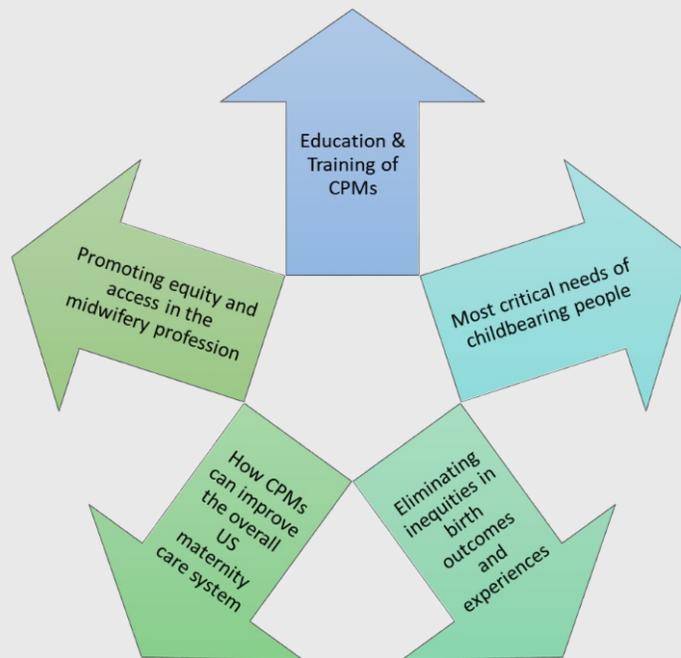
### *What topics emerged as highest priority?*

We headed off the survey by gauging your thoughts on progress made around equity and access in the field – a topic that is at the center of NACPM’s work. Then we asked you to identify the priorities for the 2018 Symposium.

In your experience, over the past 5 years, do you think there has been progress within the CPM community in addressing the issues of access, equity, and anti-racism?

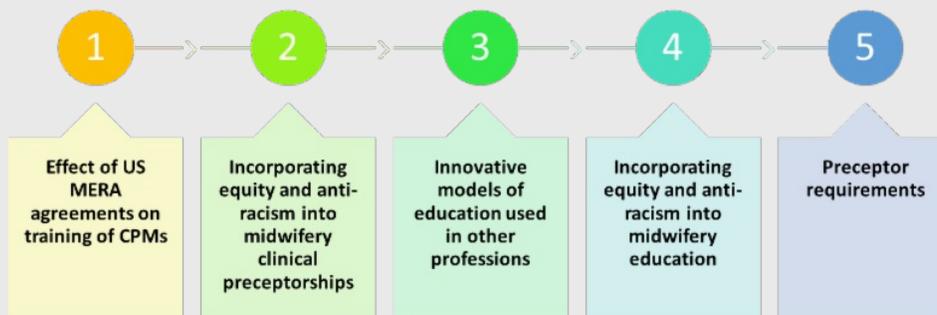


## Priorities for the Symposium (top 5 topics)



Next up, we asked about specific ideas in three main domains: Midwifery Education, Policy Efforts, & Needs of Childbearing Persons. Here's what you told us:

## Midwifery Education (top 5 topics)



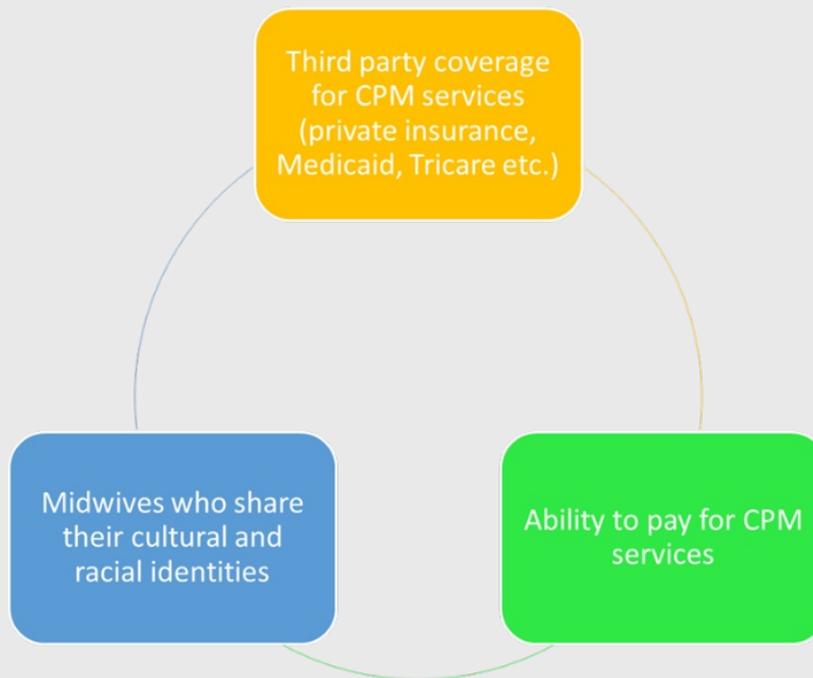
## Policy Efforts (top 3 efforts)

Recognition of CPMs as Medicaid providers at the state level

Recognition of CPMs in Medicaid providers at the federal level

Work to integrate all CPMs into the overall maternity care system

***Needs of Childbearing Persons (top 3 needs)***



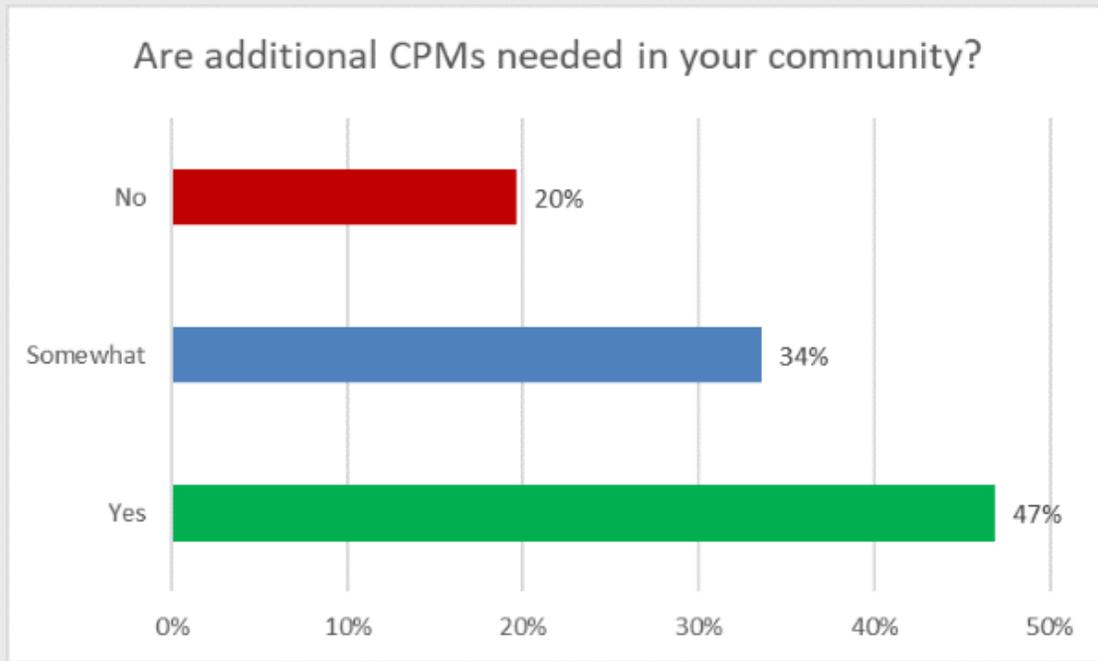
***Growing the Workforce (top 3 barriers to having more midwives serve more people)***

limited financial assistance for students

insufficient income to make the profession a viable choice for aspiring midwives

lack of preceptorships

## Are more CPMs Needed? Why the mixed results?



In your narrative responses, you painted a broader picture and said:

- Illegal status can prohibit midwife saturation
- Rural areas do not have enough midwives
- We need more midwives of color

Respondents also recognized a “supply and demand” relationship, where the more childbearing people that demand CPM care, the more CPMs we will need! NACPM recognizes that outreach campaigns about CPM care models and outcomes are central to this success.

### *Tell Me More*

We’re glad you asked! There were several areas of the survey that were open-ended, and your narratives were rich! Let’s explore some of the other overarching themes that arose from the survey:

**Practice Issues.** You recognized that serving a greater diversity of childbearing persons and integrating CPMs into the larger birthing care system was a multi-faceted issue. Areas of priority focus included:

- Sustainability of midwifery profession, including the need for: living wages; sustainable practice models with strategies for avoiding burn-out; access to practice necessities (supplies/medications)
- Interprofessional collaboration across provider type and birth settings
- Legal recognition
- Insurance reimbursement

**Equity & Access.** Equity and access was a huge theme throughout this survey! Integrating equity and access into all facets of the symposium and envisioning for the future of the CPM profession is a fundamental commitment of NACPM. Key priority areas you identified were:

- **We need a more representative workforce!** Increasing the number of midwives of color and ensuring racially and culturally concordant care for childbearing families is a necessity.
- We must support **anti-racism and anti-oppression training for midwives** and foster the provision of culturally competent care for childbearing persons.
- We need to think “outside the box” and **place midwives in areas where more childbearing people can be served**, such as Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHC), community clinics, and other medically underserved areas in the United States
- We must increase **access to education for aspiring midwives of color** and low-income individuals, ensuring they have support and success during midwifery training
- We must critically consider the role midwives play in **eliminating health inequities** in birth

**Vision for the Future.** We also asked you “envisioning” questions around the future of midwifery and how midwives can positively influence the birthing system in the US. Your ideas were inspiring!

- A midwife for every person! Midwives are specialists in midwifery models of care, low risk clientele, and physiologic birth
- Outreach campaign about CPM-led care and outcomes
- Ensuring midwives are part of the birthing care team with collaborative relationships, across provider type and birth setting
- Licensure and reimbursement pathways for midwives
- Midwives serving in underserved areas
- Midwives helping to eliminate inequities and disparities
- Practice viability and sustainability
- More midwives of color

Many of you also shared in the vision of NACPM, which is:

*NACPM envisions a primary maternity care system in our country where all individuals access care through a midwife, where birth place is the choice of the family, and where all individuals and babies have the same chance to be healthy.*

The Planning Committee is so grateful for all those who responded to the survey. Your thoughts and ideas are immensely helpful as we develop the program and structure of the 2018 CPM Symposium.

And don't forget to mark your calendars – **May 11<sup>th</sup> through 13<sup>th</sup>** in Potomac, Maryland! See you there!