We in the milk banking world know nurse midwives are the advocates for breastfeeding. You are the ones that the mothers trust to give them correct information, motivation and support so they succeed in giving the most optimal nourishment to her child. Breastfeeding is a choice and we must assure ourselves that every mother has full consent and knowledge of the benefits of Breastfeeding. Every now and then, with our best intentions and expertise, we find mothers who struggle with breast milk supply, infants failing to thrive with severe allergies to artificial formulas, or the mother is on medication or surgical interventions that are contraindicated to Breastfeeding. Ongoing research continues to demonstrate the importance of human milk for infants. So, is formula the only choice?

How does one choose the options of alternative feeding choices? One can take refuge in the WHO/UNICEF Joint statement of 1980 which suggests donor milk being the next best to mom’s own pumped breast milk particularly for ill or high risk infants. Position papers from leading federal agencies such as the CDC Breastfeeding Resource, Joint Commission’s Perinatal Care Core Measure of Exclusive Breast Milk Feedings, OWH, and the Surgeon Generals Call to Action, Action 12 supports donor pasteurized milk. Professional organizations such as AAP, ACOG, ABM, AAFP, and ADA support pasteurized donor milk from a milk bank. Today, mothers have a variety of ways to attain human milk. Some have received or shared milk through Internet, personal contacts and milk banks. What is your responsibility to help mothers find human milk? What is a milk bank?

The Human Milk Banking Association of North America (HMBANA) has been in existence for 26 years to standardize and enhance the processing of human milk, advance research in composition of human milk, educate health professionals and develop best practice in the storage, collection and handling of human milk. In 2012, the eleven milk banks in HMBANA distributed over 2,187,000 ounces of milk to infants in hospitals, medical centers and homes. All distribution is based on
Greeting California Midwives, student midwives, and midwife supporters!

It is with great pleasure that I can say what a success CNMA was at the ACNM annual meeting in Long Beach. Thank you to all the wonderful midwives and midwife students that helped run the welcome booth. It was a superb fundraiser, an excellent way to network and socialize with friends and colleagues, and a vibrant way to welcome midwives from across the country to our lovely state! The local planning committee worked hard in many aspects of the conference and it was truly appreciated. From the colorguard commencing the opening ceremony, to the quality speakers throughout, and the midwifery advertisements on local busses. To top it off, the CNMA Yacht Dinner Cruise was an event to remember. Over 80 people joined us for an evening of relaxation with friends and colleagues cruising over the Long Beach harbor.

Thank you to the many new members since the restructuring of our organization at the beginning of the year. Since becoming an ACNM Affiliate, our membership has grown more than at any other time. We are now up to 561 members, but out of the approximately 1500 CNMs in the state, we have room for more growth. We really appreciate your membership! Please encourage your colleagues to join ACNM/CNMA because our strength depends on membership. CNMA is your professional organization, so your support makes your profession stronger and better!

The next CNMA event that you don’t want to miss is coming up soon. The CNMA Annual Meeting on November 2nd and 3rd in Oakland. The annual meeting only comes once per year and this year it will be a full program with CEUs, featuring Henci Goer and local CA midwives. Our theme is: Honoring the Past, Treasuring the present, Shaping the future. Be sure to register for this conference soon, because space is limited.

The initial purpose of the Annual Meeting is the announcement of election results and the start of new terms for officers. At this meeting, your CNMA President-elect, Wende Owen, will take office. Elections for treasurer and the Northern California member of the nominating committee, (the open positions this term) are coming soon. Elections will start September 17, so watch for an e-ballot because your vote matters!

Overall, I am amazed at the growth in CNMA since we became an ACNM Affiliate. Not only in members, but in leadership. A very special thank you to all the board members and committee members. At this time in healthcare history, it is encouraging to be part of an active and engaged professional organization. Because of your support, we can help improve midwifery in California.

Warm regards,
Monica Viera

Kim Q. Dau, CNM joined the CNMA in 2011 as co-chair of the Health Policy Committee and was recently elected as one of the Northern CA Regional Directors. She graduated from UCSF in 2007 and currently works at Kaiser Permanente in Roseville. Previous to joining Kaiser, she worked with an academic practice in North Carolina and coordinated the Centering Pregnancy program at the local health department. Within ACNM she is currently the co-chair of the newly-formed Student Issues Section of the Division of Education and chair the Health Disparities sub-committee within Midwives of Color.

“The midwives that I have met through CNMA have been incredibly inspiring and it is an honor to work with them. My passion for respectful, equitable, compassionate women’s health care is matched only by my interest in the promotion of the midwifery model of care and the visibility of the work that midwives do. In my time with CNMA I hope that I can find some way to create cohesion among midwives that will ultimately help sustain and support the load that each carries, bring greater awareness to the “big picture” issues, and prevent further marginalization of the profession.”
Health Policy Update

By Kim Q. Dau, CNM and Melanie Austin, CNM
Co-Chairs, Health Policy Committee

It is hard to have a single day pass in which there isn’t some mention of the Affordable Care Act (ACA) and health care reform. Approximately 1.5 million Californians will gain health insurance coverage under the Affordable Care Act and the state also expects to receive hundreds of millions of dollars more in Medi-Cal reimbursement from the federal government.

Of course, meeting the healthcare needs of all these newly insured means expanding the capacity of our current health care workforce, as well as educating new providers. Nationally and statewide, there is an inadequate number of primary care and obstetric providers. State Senate Health Committee chairman Ed Hernandez (D-West Covina) has plans for legislation to expand scope-of-practice definitions for some health care providers. Currently, Senator Hernandez is working on SB 1524 (see the Political Solutions update), as well as SB 690, which we lobbied in 2011. SB 690 is a bill that would make it illegal in California for health care service plans and health insurance carriers, when contracting for services, to discriminate against an entire class of providers that is working within its scope of practice. For example, prohibiting CNMs from working at their hospital solely because s/he is a CNM. “Non-discrimination” is a component of the ACA.

Nationally, there is more news related to the relationship of CNMs to the hospital institution. The CMS (Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services) has finally released their revised Conditions of Participation. This revision has been

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Political Solutions Report

By Kristin Beard King, Angela Blanchard, and Holly Escareno

Hello members of CNMA! It has been a busy year in Sacramento, and Political Solutions and CNMA have been working hard to protect and promote the interests of certified nurse-midwives in California. Of particular interest are two bills, SB 1524 and SB 623.

CNMA is co-sponsoring SB 1524 by Senate Health Committee Chair Ed Hernandez. This bill would remove the requirement for CNMs and nurse practitioners to complete at least six months of physician-supervised experience in furnishing drugs to obtain a furnishing license. As you may know, this requirement can sometimes make it difficult for new graduates and CNMs moving to California to obtain jobs. Senator Hernandez is committed to increasing the health care workforce and access to care, especially in underserved areas of the state, and SB 1524 would help to work toward those goals. SB 1524 has had no votes thus far and will be heard in the Assembly Appropriations Committee in early August.

SB 623 is another bill which CNMA is supporting. This bill, authored by Senator Christine Kehoe of San Diego, would extend the Health Workforce Pilot Project No. 171 (HWPP No. 171), which is scheduled to end in September 2012, to January 1, 2014. HWPP No. 171, which began in 2007, is a pilot project to examine the safety and effectiveness of CNMs, nurse practitioners and physician assistants in performing first trimester aspiration abortion. By extending this pilot project, those leading the program hope to have an opportunity

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Student Spotlight: Nancy Green, CNM

Nancy Green, CNM is enrolled as a full time DNP student at the University of San Francisco (USF) School of Nursing and also serves as clinical faculty for master’s level entry students at USF. Her focus is on improving interdisciplinary education and collaboration, and improving maternal mental health care services. As part of her DNP project, Nancy has applied for and received a portion of a $3,000,000 grant, Wellness Works, from CalMHSA, an organization that distributes funds collected from Proposition 63 and facilitated the creation of the California Mental Health Services Act. The grant aim is to reduce the social stigma associated with mental illness, promote mental health awareness, and encourage acceptance of individuals with mental health issues in the workplace.

She serves as a volunteer for the California Collaborative for Maternal Mental Health and assisted with the group's Roundtable Discussion at the State Capital on May 7. The group is interested in increasing awareness of pregnancy and post partum mood disorders (PPMD), improving legislation for maternal mental health, and was successful in achieving legislative recognition of May as Maternal Mental Health Month.

Nancy enjoys political advocacy for maternal mental health care and professional issues, integration of technology into professional practice and patient services, and improving collaboration and education of health care professionals. She has two sons and lives in the San Francisco Bay Area and in Sacramento.

Long Beach CNMA Hospitality Booth a Success!

A highlight for many attending the 57th Annual Meeting of the American College of Nurse Midwives in Long Beach was the CNMA Hospitality Booth! In a showing of incredible unity and industriousness, CNMA members from all over our state joined to make this year’s Hospitality Booth a huge success. Although the planning for the booth started with a group of Southern California CNMs, it grew into a statewide showing of passion for midwifery! The CNMA hospitality booth committee made an early decision that all profits of the June 3-7 booth would go to our brand new ACNM affiliate, CNMA. This truly paid off- both in revenues (over $9,000!) and in strengthening connections among CNMs from all over our state.

Vendors sold artwork, jewelry, pottery, and masseuses gave chair massages on consignment while CNMA members donated individual items that were auctioned, raffled, or sold outright. Home-baked bakery items were available and there was even the opportunity to get a beautiful henna tattoo (everyone in CA has one, right?) In addition, there were two book signings by convention speakers, Diane Hoppe, MD and Bob Sears, MD. The booth was staffed by numerous CNMs, midwifery, and nursing students from opening at 7am to closing at 6pm each day.

Sales of CNMA T-shirts and warm-up jackets were so brisk that after quickly selling out of on-site inventory, there were many who purchased items online for later delivery. Another highlight for conference attendees was the Long Beach Harbor Yacht cruise – also a CNMA fund-raiser in which there were 86 midwives, students, and midwife supporters enjoying the open waters one evening.

Special thanks for the chapters and individuals who donated items or services to make this a success:

ACNM Chapters:
Inland Empire
Los Angeles
Orange County

Individual CNMs:
Karen Ruby Brown
Linda Calderon
Beth Coleman
Candace Curlee
Kim Dau
Andrea Ferrara
Diana Ford
Ginny Gladwin
Nancy Gomez
Shadman Habibi
Diane Hernandez
Susan Huser
Carrie Jacobson
Betsy Jenkins
Kendra Johnson, SNM
Karmen Jones
Maria Kammerer
Davi Khalsa
Karen Ruby Brown
Linda Calderon
Beth Coleman
Candace Curlee
Kim Dau
Andrea Ferrara
Diana Ford
Ginny Gladwin
Nancy Gomez
Shadman Habibi
Diane Hernandez
Susan Huser
Carrie Jacobson
Betsy Jenkins
Kendra Johnson, SNM
Karmen Jones
Maria Kammerer
Davi Khalsa

Our resounding success with the CNMA Hospitality booth would not have been realized without each of your donations of items, time, and services – and we believe that we will be a very tough act to follow for Hospitality booths in ACNM Annual Meetings to come!

Monica Viera, CNMA President and Ruth Mielke, CNMA Hospitality Booth Coordinator
Friday, November 2: Meeting and Conference

Join your California midwife colleagues for an exciting educational conference and meeting held in historic Preservation Park conveniently located close to public transportation and parking in downtown Oakland.

You don’t want to miss...

- **Henci Goer**, author and childbirth activist, kicking off the meeting with a keynote address on “The Limitations of Evidence Based Medicine.”

- A panel of “legacy midwives” sharing their stories ‘from the trenches’ about their personal efforts to protect and support physiologic birth in a variety of practice settings.

- Midwife members of the **California Maternal Quality Care Collaborative** presenting the new toolkit and standards for early detection and treatment of preeclampsia and introducing new tools for real time data collection.

- An update on current ACNM strategies to support practice as well as an opportunity help determine the legislative agenda to support midwifery practice for California by the **ACNM Region VI Representative**.

- There will be ample opportunity to network at topical lunch tables (lunch provided) and regional meetings, as well as at a social reception to meet the **CNMA Board of Directors**.

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Saturday, November 3: Post-Conference Workshops

The morning sessions will offer two choices:

**Getting Your Practice Ready for Group Prenatal Care**
This workshop is designed for persons considering or beginning the process to implement Centering Pregnancy within their practice. Content includes details of the design of the model, evidence of effectiveness, motivation for change and assistance with details of grant writing.

$100 / Registration is limited to 30

**Group Prenatal Care: Challenges and Solutions**
This workshop is designed for individuals who are currently facilitating group care. Content will be individualized to the priorities of the group and will focus on improving facilitation skills as well as meeting challenges such as recruitment and evaluation.

$125 / Registration is limited to 15

Both sessions will be facilitated by faculty midwives with extensive experience providing care in groups as well assisting clinical sites to adopt models of group care.

The afternoon sessions will offer a choice of two very different workshops:

**Waterbirth: Principles and Practice**
This session will provide an introduction to waterbirth including detailed information to assist midwives to add waterbirth to their practice. Faculty include **Jenna Shaw-Battista, CNM, PhD** as well as practitioners discussing site specific implementation and interesting case studies.

$100 / Registration is limited to 30

**Billing and Coding for Midwifery Practice**
This session will provide an overview of billing and coding practices that can enhance revenue and maximize your ability to collect for the wide range of services provided by midwives. Attendees will be asked to bring billing sheets used by their practice as well as challenges and dilemmas. **Jeffrey Snell CPC, faculty**, provides the billing services for midwifery practices and birth centers in Southern California. $100 / Registration is limited to 30.
Things to See and Do in Oakland

Go to www.visitOakland.org for a complete listing of all the exciting things to do in and around Oakland.

Getting to and around downtown Oakland is easier than ever with the FREE Broadway shuttle operating M-Th 7a-7p; Fridays 7a-1a; and Saturdays 6p-1a. Visit bshuttle.com for route and stops.

Oakland Art Murmur Walk
Friday, 6pm-1am
Saturday Art Stroll, 1pm-5 pm
http://oaklandartmurmur.org/
Member galleries are located between Jack London Square and 26th Street and along the Broadway/Telegraph corridors.

About Oakland Art Murmur (OAM)
OAM organizes a free monthly art walk, known as The Art Murmur, when 21 member galleries and 9 mixed-use venues are open to the public and hold artists receptions. Many member galleries also participate in the weekly Saturday Stroll when they host free cultural programs such as receptions, artist talks, lectures, musical performances, and literary readings.

The mission of the OAM is to support art and cultural venues that are dedicated to increasing popular awareness of and participation in the arts of Oakland.

Oakland Museum of California
Friday and Saturday, 11am-5pm
http://museumca.org/

African American Museum and Library
Friday and Saturday, 12pm-5:30pm
Located adjacent to Preservation Park
www.oaklandlibrary.org/aamlo/
This museum is dedicated to the discovery, preservation, interpretation and sharing of historical and cultural experiences of African Americans in California and the West for present and future generations. You can easily make a quick visit after the conference and before the reception on Friday.

Children’s Fairyland
Friday, 9am-4pm
Saturday, 9am-5pm
http://fairyland.org/
If you have small children don’t miss Children’s Fairyland on Lake Merritt.

Dancing Under the Stars
Every Friday, 8:30pm-10pm
Dance under the stars and the moon on the beautiful Jack London Square (www.jacklondonsquare.com) waterfront. Enjoy an evening of FREE dance lessons provided by the Linden Street Dance Studio and enjoy a dance party to follow.

Food
Chinatown: General border is Broadway and Webster between 7th and 10th Streets. A vibrant community and one of the largest pan Asian communities in US.

San Francisco
Ferry Service from Jack London Square to San Francisco is a great way to get to SF and enjoy the Bay (http://sanfranciscobayferry.com/).

Hotel Accomodations
CNMA has contracted with two hotels which offer competitive rates for this meeting. Rates do not include tax which is about 14%.

Washington Inn
www.thewashingtoninn.com/
$75 Single Queen, non-smoking
$89 Double Two Beds, non-smoking
$109 King w/ Parlor Suite, non-smoking

Preservation Park, our meeting site, is walking distance from this boutique hotel. This hotel is also conveniently located a couple of blocks from the downtown 12 Street BART station. Parking is an additional fee and breakfast is not included. Mention group code CNMA1 when you register. Rates will apply until October 12.

Executive Inn and Suites
www.executiveinnoakland.com
$109 For the older side of the hotel
$149 For the executive part of the hotel
This is the rate for all rooms, singles or doubles.

This hotel is in a waterfront location and provides complimentary shuttle service from the Oakland Airport and a full breakfast. Parking is free. When you register, be sure you indicate you are with CNMA for the discount rate. This rate will apply until October.
As Chair of the Certification Maintenance Committee (CMP) for the American Midwifery Certification Board (AMCB), I thought I would give an update from AMCB and share useful hints for successfully completing your CMP process.

First, for the first half of this year, we have certified 262 new CNM/CMS!!! Kudos to all the faculty and preceptors who have made that happen. This is good news that our numbers of new midwives are increasing, so some of us who are more rapidly increasing in years can retire knowing there is a new cohort to take over.

Now that everyone is part of the CMP process, these hints will be for those new to the process, not of the young ones who have been in CMP for a while. First, if you do not have a login and password for the AMCB website, call the office at 1-866-366-9632 and Allyson or Lori will be happy to give you what you need. Once you login into the website (www.amcbmidwife.org), you can log in your CE activity, order article packets for your modules, and take your module tests. For those transitioning into CMP, everyone has different requirements depending on your CCA cycle or the year you were certified, so do not ask one of your friends about what you need to do – ask the AMCB office.

A word about what qualifies for CE. Primarily, any ACNM or ACCME credits qualify, as well as those from most Advanced Practice and Pharmacy credits. We do not accept ANCC or BRN CEUs unless they are for clearly designated advanced practice meetings. If you attend a conference and have a choice between RN or MD CEUs, take the MD CEUs. If there is a conference you want to attend and they do not offer ACNM CE, be proactive and ask them to apply. If you still want to go, you can apply to ACNM for CEUs yourself retroactively but will have to pay the fee. You can also receive CE for clinical precepting of midwifery students, giving CE presentations, and writing journal articles (see Linda Walsh’s piece about Clinical Rounds). See the AMCB website for a complete list of CE alternatives.

About the modules – you can download the reference list and questions from the web at no cost. Ways to increase learning and share the costs of article sets is for groups of midwives or a practice to decide to do a particular module in a year. You can share the articles and maybe take part of a staff meeting to discuss one subject and the readings. Better yet, get together over margaritas and discuss them. The point is to read about areas of practice, you may or may not be doing, and stay up to date. It is not kosher to just give the answers to questions to your colleagues. Why do you have to do modules in areas you are not practicing in? Because your certification is in full scope midwifery, not a sub-specialty.

Lastly, if you move or change email addresses, in addition to informing ACNM, be sure to change your information with AMCB, either through the web or giving them a call. They will send you reminders about your CMP but you won't receive them if they go to the wrong address.

Mary Barger, CNM
marykbarger@ymail.com
Regional and Chapter News

Central Region

We are pleased to represent you on the CNMA Board of Directors and look forward to meeting you personally. The Central Region covers a lot of territory – we currently show 49 members that range from Jackson to Bishop to San Luis Obispo. The fact that we are so far apart geographically presents some challenges, but we have some ideas to offer for forming and maintaining chapters. The members in the north part of our region are a little closer and we could consider starting a chapter with “in person” meetings, perhaps in the Modesto area. We have also discussed taking advantage of some other possibilities, such as e-conferencing or ??? Please contact us with your ideas for getting together. We would also like to know about special events you are planning – opening a practice, celebrating an anniversary or award, so that we can let the other members in the area know and we can support you, as well.

Wallene Stoddard, CNM (wstoddardrn@hotmail.com): I work at Kaiser Modesto as a staff midwife and also chair the CenteringPregnancy program for the Central Valley area. Please feel free to contact me about any concerns or suggestions about CNMA, chapter formation, or our region.

Rita Barron, CNM (rita.s.barron@gmail.com): I am in a private office based practice. There are 2 CNMs and 3 Mds. I am located in Visalia CA. I would like the Central Region to become more active in ACNM/CNMA. It is especially important in our area for midwives to be more visible. We need to increase awareness of our presence and all that we are capable of doing. I would like to know who is in our area – the names, emails, and practice information. This would be a starting point for us to spread the word about midwifery.

Bay Area Chapter

Secretary, Eva Goodfriend-Reaño

We are happy to be hosting quarterly meetings scheduled on the third Thursday from 7p-9p, July and October are left this year. We have started having midwife practices host the meetings which provides local midwives with opportunities to learn about local practices and for midwife practices to share with their local midwives.

At a recent meeting we took a brief needs assessment and found that local midwives are looking for opportunities to network, for CEU’s, and to socialize with other midwives. We hope to create the space for these wishes for midwives around the bay.

We are also happy to be hosting the upcoming Annual Meeting in November and hope to have many local midwives attend.

Orange County Chapter

Chapter Chair, Marci Salmon

The Orange County chapter enjoyed helping out at ACNM convention. Our own Jessica Maxwell had a wonderful turnout every morning for her yoga classes! Connie Swentek and BJ Snell did a wonderful job as local program committee chairs! A big thank you to all from the OC chapter that donated items to sell and worked at the hospitality booth! Kaiser Permanente Orange County would like to welcome Janna Ratzlaff, the newest CNM to join the group.

Our next chapter meeting will be September 19 in the evening. If you would like to have your name added to our email list to be informed of our chapter meetings and other important chapter information, please email your request to join the chapter email list to midwifemarci@yahoo.com.

San Diego Chapter

Chapter Chair, Karen Ruby Brown

The San Diego Chapter is excited about the future of midwifery in California! We are in the process of reorganizing our chapter structure to conform with the new CNMA affiliate. This includes revamping our current ByLaws, which is a more involved endeavor than it seemed at first! We are, nonetheless, finding it to be a valuable process in helping us redefine ourselves in light of recent national and state changes. Thanks to Judith Fullerton and Candace Curlee for their dedication to and hard work on this project!
State Supreme Court Refuses To Bar CRNAs From Giving Anesthetics

The State Supreme Court recently issued an order refusing to block Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists (CRNAs) from administering anesthetics to patients without a physician’s supervision. This order is expected to have a significant effect on hospitals in rural areas where nurses frequently administer anesthetics without a physician present. Philip Recht, a lawyer for the CRNAs, was quoted in the San Francisco Chronical as saying allowing nurses to administer anesthetics without supervision “increases access and lowers the cost of anesthesia care and thus the services that depend on it, like surgery and childbirth.” Studies have found that nurses can administer anesthesia as safely as physicians.

Save the Date: Midwifery Works! 2012

Join ACNM October 18 – 21 at the New York University College of Nursing to explore and develop your business skills, network with other midwives to overcome practice challenges, and expand your practice using social networking. This year, ACNM staff surveyed attendees at the Annual Meeting in Long Beach, CA, to see what midwives want and need out of the fall Midwifery Business Network meeting — and they’ve designed the program around these responses. Midwifery Works! is an annual joint conference of the Midwifery Business Network, Directors of Midwifery Education, and the A.C.N.M. Foundation. http://www.midwife.org/Midwifery-Business-Network.

ACNM Unveiled Consumer Education Campaign at ACNM Annual Meeting

ACNM was thrilled to announce the theme of its upcoming consumer campaign, “Our Moment of Truth: A New Understanding of Midwifery Care.” Launching in mid-September, this comprehensive, multi-year campaign will focus initially on raising consumer awareness about evidence-based maternity care and promote an accurate and positive understanding of midwives in the U.S. There will be opportunities for individuals and organizations to get involved and step up the momentum of the campaign. Take in a preview of the upcoming program at https://vimeo.com/42176685 – enter password ‘acnm’ and keep in mind that it is for ACNM members only at this time because the campaign has not yet launched to the public.

ACNM Partners with NACPM and MANA to Publish Consensus Statement on Normal Physiologic Birth

ACNM announced the publication of a new historic consensus statement with the National Association of CPMs (NACPM) and Midwives Alliance of North America (MANA). Supporting Healthy and Normal Physiologic Childbirth: A Consensus Statement by ACNM, MANA, and NACPM (https://member.midwife.org/members-online/utilities/emailct.asp?830513E9B0E84C43913046E3A8DFD140) gives maternity care providers, policymakers, and women a succinct summary of the evidence for the benefits of normal physiologic childbirth. The joint statement is one of several planned ACNM-led initiatives that will focus on promoting normal physiologic birth in all settings, accompanying the ACNM public relations campaign.

National Breastfeeding Month: 20 actions in 20 days

This August, the US Breastfeeding Committee is sponsoring a social media campaign in celebration of National Breastfeeding Month. The campaign is intended to highlight the US Surgeon General’s call for the entire nation to take 20 concrete action steps to support the removal of barriers to breastfeeding. To read more about the social media campaign, visit http://www.usbreastfeeding.org/Communities/BreastfeedingPromotion/NationalBreastfeedingMonth/tabid/209/Default.aspx.

New Application Deadlines for Strong Start Grants

In February 2012, the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services Innovation Center announced “Strong Start” a grant opportunity for studying the impact of three different “alternative” prenatal care models of on preterm birth rates. All three models of the care are midwife-led models: CenteringPregnancy, birth centers, and maternity care homes. The original application deadline was June 13, however CMS recently extended the new application deadline until August 9, with optional letters of intent due August 8. The anticipated award date is October 5.

ACNM has invested in developing a significant multi-site midwife-led maternity care home project proposal, drawing from midwife-led practices that serve primarily Medicaid populations and have a track record of participation in the ACNM benchmarking project. At this time, ACNM’s project includes 19 practice sites in 14 states, including California.

ACNM also encourages members to get involved in state and local projects forming in their own communities. CMS is allowing organizations to participate even if they have not previously submitted a letter of intent. For more information about Strong Start go to http://innovations.cms.gov/initiatives/strong-start/index.html. For information about ACNM’s Strong Start initiative, please contact Tina Johnson, Director of Professional Practice and Health Policy, at tjohnson@acnm.org.
long anticipated because provisions were expected that would expand the role for non-physician providers.

From ACNM: “On May 10, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services issued its final regulations updating portions of the Medicare Hospital Conditions of Participation (CoP). These are the rules that hospitals are required to comply with in order to maintain eligibility to participate in the Medicare and Medicaid programs. While it is clear that CMS believes hospitals should be utilizing midwives and APRNs to a greater extent and encourages hospitals to do so, the updated regulations will not solve all problems, since they fall short of requiring hospitals to place midwives and APRNs on medical staffs. It is probably best to characterize the rule and its accompanying narrative as a strong signal to hospitals that they should utilize midwives and APRNs as members of their medical staffs.”

The CMS changes to the CoP also received a response from a recent House of Delegates meeting of the American Medical Association; they responded to the new CoP with a resolution that notes, “[physician] oversight of Allied Health Providers, who may be LIPs in some states, is vital to the safe and effective care of patients in the hospital…” and resolve that “leadership of the medical staff continue to rest in the hands of physicians (MD, DO), with other practitioners to practice in the hospital under the supervision and oversight of physicians and under rules established by the local medical staff.”

Resolved to continue working toward change, the California Action Coalition (in which CNMA participates) continues to build momentum and move forward on strategizing the implementation of the Future of Nursing recommendations. There are a total of eight recommendations from the IOM’s report. Our current focus continues to be recommendation #1: Remove scope of practice barriers. However, we need expert CNMs to be present on the other seven workgroups (including topics as diverse as nurse residency development, increasing nurses with baccalaureate and doctorate, lifelong learning, leadership, infrastructure for workforce data). If you are interested, you can register on California Action Coalition webpage: http://www.caactioncoalition.org. Please let us know that you are participating so that CNMA members can collaborate on our efforts.

In other news, the Board of Registered Nursing is now staffed sufficiently to meet a quorum. The APRN position on the Board has not yet been filled and it is unclear when the Governor will make this appointment.

And of a small but significant note, the California Labor Market Information Division of the Employment Development Department asked CNMA to review and edit the California Occupational Guide to Nurse Midwives, which is free and made available as part of a career guide. Much thanks to the many CNMA members who sent their edit suggestions to us for publication, and special thanks to Julie Rousseau of the Los Angeles chapter for her help with the final edits.

We also want to give much thanks to Political Solutions, especially Angela Blanchard and Holly Escareno, who are our governmental advocates in Sacramento. They are critical as our interface to legislators, staffers, as well as other lobbying professional organizations, such as California Medical Association and California Association of Nurse Practitioners.

As always, CNMA members are asked and welcome to join the Health Policy committee and/or submit your feedback and questions!

Kim Q Dau, CNM
Melanie Austin, CNM

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Political Solutions Report

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to publish the data in a peer-reviewed journal and maintain the competence of those clinicians who have been trained during the project. The bill passed the Assembly Health Committee on a 13-6 vote and will next be heard in the Assembly Appropriations Committee.

While the Legislature is currently on summer recess for the month of July, August will be a busy month with many important deadlines. We look forward to working on these bill with CNMA and hope you have a wonderful summer!

Kristin Beard King, Partner
Angela Blanchard, Lobbyist
Holly Escareno, Legislative Assistant
State Chapters Vital Role in the Affiliate Structure

A note about CNMA chapters!! California is an exceptional state in many ways, and our affiliate structure is one of them. Aside from California, there are few other states that have chapters in addition to the state affiliate. With the adoption of CNMA as state affiliate, the other California chapters will soon need to renew their Standard Rules of Operating Procedures (SROPs)/chapter bylaws. There are some financial and tax considerations involved in this process, i.e., whether chapters should be incorporated, whether they are chapters of CNMA v chapters of ACNM, etc. ACNM is currently seeking legal guidance. (Special thanks to Connie Swentek who is assisting with this.) Once the guidance is received and ACNM has formal recommendations, CNMA’s Regional Directors will assist chapters in this renewal process. Current CNMA bylaws require chapters to have their SROPs reviewed every two years. If you live and/or practice in an area that does not currently have an active chapter and are interested in developing a chapter, please contact your Regional Directors.

Regional Directors:
Northern CA:
- Kim Q. Dau, CNM, kim.dau@gmail.com
- Linda Walsh, CNM, lindavwalsh@sbcglobal.net
Central CA:
- Rita Barron, CNM, rita.s.barron@gmail.com
- Wallene Stoddard, CNM, wstoddardrn@hotmail.com
Southern CA:
- Ginny Gladwin, CNM, GinnyGlad@aol.com
- Lisa Whitley, CNM, ldwhitl@yahoo.com

CNMA Structure

(For a more complete view of CNMA’s structure, please visit our Leadership Team page at http://california.midwife.org/index.asp?sid=10.)
Membership Regions

NORTHERN
Alameda, Butte, Colusa, Contra Costa, Del Norte, El Dorado, Glenn, Humboldt, Lake, Lassen, Marin, Mendocino, Modoc, Napa, Nevada, Placer, Plumas, Sacramento, San Benito, San Francisco, San Mateo, Santa Clara, Santa Cruz, Shasta, Sierra, Siskiyou, Solano, Sonoma, Sutter, Tehama, Trinity, Yolo, Yuba

CENTRAL
Alpine, Amador, Calaveras, Fresno, Inyo, Kern, Kings, Madera, Mariposa, Merced,Mono, Monterey, San Joaquin, San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, Stanislaus, Tulare, Tuolumne

SOUTHERN
Imperial, Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego, Ventura

Local Chapters

Northern:
Bay Area
San Jose
Sacramento/Davis

Central:

Southern:
Los Angeles
Orange County
Inland Desert
San Diego
prescription and priority of need. These milk banks are the only non-profit services that supply donor human milk to NICUs.

The benefits of human milk for preterm infants are based on a growing body of evidence that suggests human milk as the standard of care. Infants have improved outcomes with human milk. Mothers providing their own breast milk for their infant is the optimal choice because of the growth hormones, immunologic specificity, and nutritional superiority from any other artificial baby milk. In the event that the mother’s supply of breast milk is not meeting the infant’s needs or she is unable to lactate, supplementation with donor human milk is considered appropriate. In the outpatient setting, donor milk is used for feeding infants who are not thriving on human milk substitutes.

All the milk provided to HMBANA milk banks is donated and donors do not incur costs to donate. Every donor submits to a verbal screening, written questionnaire, and a blood test to identify HIV, HTLV, Hepatitis B and C and Syphilis within 6 months of donation. All the donated milk is tested for bacteria after the Holder pasteurization procedure. The multiple levels of redundancy in screening safeguards the recipients from contamination. All batches must show no bacterial growth before it is dispensed (HMBANA Guidelines). All HMBANA member banks follow the “Guidelines for the Establishment and Operation of a Donor Human Milk Bank” and subjected to annual audits.

The Mothers’ Milk Bank in San Jose, a charter member of HMBANA, was established in 1974. This is the oldest and largest distributing US milk bank in continuous operation. This milk bank is licensed by the State Departments of Health of California and Maryland as a tissue bank. In 2011, the San Jose Milk Bank distributed over 350,000 ounces of processed milk. Sixty five hospitals were served but the majority of distribution focused on infants in outpatient settings that could not tolerate artificial baby formulas. There is evidence that a shift to preterm infant feeding of donor milk is becoming the norm therefore the volume of milk is being directed to the inpatient population. We want to continue to serve the outpatient clients.

What can a milk bank do for you and how can you as a nurse midwife help milk banks? Please consider donor human milk as a possible supplementation for your mothers struggling with milk supply. It requires a prescription faxed to us at 408-297-9208. We work with you and the mother to determine volume. Our goal is successful lactation.

However, just like a regular bank, “donor milk can’t go out unless donor milk comes in.” The 450,000 ounces delivered by the San Jose Mother’s Milk does NOT imply that we were able to fulfill every mother’s need for supplementation. We need your help in finding the donors! Please refer mothers to 1-877-375-6645 or our WEB site, www.sanjosemilkbank.com or www.facebook.com/freshestmilk.

Regional and Chapter News

Many San Diegans, including several SNMs from San Diego State University, attended June’s Annual Meeting in fabulous Long Beach. Kudos to CNMA on such an outstanding job as host. Thanks to Beth Coleman for putting together a gorgeous San Diego-themed basket for raffle. Several local midwives contributed including Candace Curlee, Sara Shaffer, Patricia Achilly, Beth Coleman, and Karen Ruby Brown. Coincidently, the winner of this basket was our own Karen Perdion, so back to San Diego the basket went!

Thanks to Sue Scott, Mellissa Mann, Candace Curlee, Sara Shaffer, Joanna Strauss, Beth Coleman, Karen Ruby Brown and Shadman Habibi for helping to staff the Hospitality Booth, and especially to Beth Coleman for organizing this effort. We are delighted to have sold a lot of our Novena candles: Our Lady of Involution (to ward off postpartum hemorrhage); Our Lady of Slippery Shoulders (to ward off shoulder dystocia), and Our Lady of No Falta Mucho (for energy for tired midwives). As of this newsletter we haven’t tallied up the proceeds, but it all goes to CNMA. If anyone is interested in purchasing a set of candles or labels, please send an email to krbrown@ucsd.edu. They are $8 each or a set of three for $20, plus S&H. Mention this newsletter and, again, all proceeds will go to CNMA.

San Diego’s next Chapter meeting will be our annual “Welcoming the Students” gathering in October. Check out our website for the details, www.sdmidwives.org.