



TALKING POINTS

in Support of Certified Professional Midwives

Use these talking points if helpful during delegate visits.

Benefits of Licensing for Families	Benefits of Licensing for Maryland
<p>Homebirth will be safer:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Licensed, trained midwifery care will be available to those seeking homebirth • CPMs will be able to transfer care to other providers and the hospital when needed, without fear of prosecution • CPMs will have access to lifesaving medications so that they can immediately respond to rare but serious complications • Ensures educational excellence of CPMs who will adhere to The North American Registry of Midwives (NARM) standards, a practice widely followed by states where CPMs are licensed • Allows CPMs to work with doctors and other maternal health care providers, ensuring women are at all times getting the level of care they need <p>Benefits for families:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Families who plan a homebirth will be able to find a midwife with greater ease • Reduce health care costs: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ homebirth with a CPM costs approximately 1/3 that of a planned vaginal hospital birth ○ homebirth mothers have higher breastfeeding rates, which reduces cost 	<p>Licensing will be good for Maryland:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Greatly improve access to homebirth midwives, which is currently severely limited, reducing the rate of unattended homebirths • Align Maryland with the 28 other states where CPMs practice legally • Better outcome for Maryland babies with higher breastfeeding rates • Fill the gap between the need for healthcare providers and what is currently available; a predicted shortage of providers is expected in 2015 • CPMs increase access to good healthcare for lower income, urban, and rural populations. These populations benefit from prenatal care, resulting in better birth and health outcomes. • Improve Maryland’s maternal health care ranking, which is 48th in the nation • Decrease Maryland’s unacceptable cesarean rate of 35%, higher than the national average, with a target of not exceeding the WHO upper threshold of 15%

ADDRESS

PO Box 203
Boonsboro, MD 21713

PHONE

408-MYBIRTH
408-692-4784

EMAIL

info@marylandfamiliesforsafebirth.org

WEB

www.marylandfamiliesforsafebirth.org
www.MFSB.me