



Photos courtesy of FAM Grantees: Ancient Song Doula Services, MANA Division of Access and Equity

We are proud to announce FAM's 2017 Birth Trust Grantees:

HEALTH EQUITY PROJECTS: Total Awards \$18,300

- ❖ Ancient Song Doula Services, *The Midwifery Assistant Program*
- ❖ California Association of Midwives, *Expanding the Midwifery Model of Care in Communities of Color*
- ❖ Commonsense Childbirth, Inc., *Quiero Entender ("I Want to Understand")*
- ❖ Home Birth Summit Consumer Task Force, *The Giving Voice to Mothers Study: Speaking Truth about Respect and Racism*
- ❖ Midwives Alliance of North America (MANA), Division of Access and Equity, *Moving Division of Access and Equity forward - Second Pilot Project*
- ❖ MANA, Division of Access and Equity, *MANA Stats Increasing Enrollment to Midwives of Color and LGBT Community Midwives*

\$13,245
raised in
FAM's
first-ever
crowdfund
campaign:
"Giving
Voice to
Birth Equity
in the USA"

PUBLIC POLICY PROJECTS: Total Awards \$8,000

- ❖ MANA Health Policy and Advocacy Division Collaboration with Integrative Health Policy Consortium (IHPC), *Midwifery Care Reimbursement Identification Project*
- ❖ Home Birth Summit Research and Data Taskforce, *The Midwifery Access and Integration Report Card: Telling the Story*

PUBLIC EDUCATION PROJECTS: Total Awards \$7,500

- ❖ MANA, *MANA Communications Program Support*

RESEARCH PROJECTS: Total Awards \$14,500

- ❖ MANA, Division of Research (DOR), *Data Doula Coordinator of MANA Stats*
- ❖ MANA, DOR, *Accelerating Dissemination of MANA Stats*
- ❖ MANA, DOR, *What Affects Experience and Outcomes of Transfer from Home to Hospital?*

Project abstracts available at www.formidwifery.org/projects-funded/

From the Past President

In June my term as president ended. It has been a great honor to work together with our amazing grantees, generous donors, wonderful board, and two dynamic executive directors. The four years I served as president were a time of change for FAM: saying goodbye to several longtime board members and our first ED; improving infrastructure, especially in the realm of donor communication; and launching our new web site.

Every year it has been a great joy to give out grant money to so many worthy projects, and at the same time a frustration not to be able to fully fund many important projects with the potential to enhance our mission. It is a constant goal of FAM to increase our donor base and annual grantmaking.

As the end of my term approached, we decided to search out an experienced midwifery leader to serve as interim president. I can speak for the entire board when I say we were absolutely thrilled when our first choice, Geradine Simkins, accepted our proposal. Many of you know Geradine from her time as MANA board member, president and executive director. What you may not know is that Geradine is also one of the founding mothers of FAM. She comes to us with a wealth of experience and skills. We have just identified our next president, new board member Emily Anesta, and Gera will be mentoring her to assume the role next spring.



As I wind down my many years with FAM I want to thank each and every person that has been a part of this important foundation. Respectful attentive maternity care continues to be difficult to access in our country, and midwifery is a key component to improving the health and lives of birthing families. I hope you will all stand behind FAM in our goal to increase access to midwifery and spread the word about the impactful work of the FAM grantees.

From the President

I almost retired from my midwifery career of over 40 years. Then FAM's president approached me with an offer I could not refuse: provide professional development to FAM's board of directors and support for the executive director; guide strategic planning and implementation to strengthen the core of the organization; and mentor the next generation of FAM leaders so that they feel confident to take the helm (and the founding members can retire!).



We have revitalized FAM by creating a new mission, vision, and statement of values. We have designed a new 3-5 year strategic plan. We have launched a beautiful and user-friendly website. We have designed a new Fundraising Campaign and Toolkit called *Double FAM's Impact, Double FAM's Reach* so that FAM can significantly expand its impact and financial support of midwifery projects in North America. And we will be conducting fundraising activities at the 2017 MANA conference as well as networking.

I look forward to more exciting and productive work with the FAM board members and executive director. The companion piece to having a strong and committed board and staff is strengthening FAM by creating and maintaining strategic alliances. FAM needs more allies and partners in order to ensure our impact and sustainability. Thank you to everyone who has contributed in any way to FAM's success. And to those who have not yet become allies and partners – there are numerous opportunities for everyday philanthropy, large and small. Please join us! Together we can make midwifery available to every person who wants a midwife!

From the Executive Director

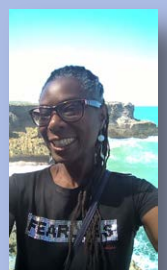
As FAM's Executive Director I define my role as "bridge maker." I take the organization's vision and mission and translate them so that a bridge is created connecting FAM's internal and external world. The internal world consists of the board of directors, stakeholders, grantees, donors, and volunteers. The external world is you the Birth Trustee, first time donor, potential donor, conference attendee, etc.

As bridge maker, my goal is to build on this year's accomplishments and ride that wave as far as it will carry FAM. Those accomplishments include the organization's newly completed strategic planning process. During this uncertain political climate, FAM made a conscious decision to exert itself and step more boldly into its purpose. That decision is evident in FAMs revised mission, vision, and values statements.

I firmly believe that FAM has a major role to play in midwifery philanthropy and I am staunchly committed to doing my part. In collaboration with the board of directors, I look forward to achieving the following outcomes over the course of my tenure. I will work to:

- [Be] Available for mutually beneficial conversations with existing and potential donors and the community at large.
- Broaden FAM's reach into vulnerable and low-resourced communities that can benefit from access to the midwifery model of care.
- Connect with communities of color and those that are marginalized and/or facing maternal and child health disparities.
- Increase FAM's financial footprint as a funder.

Thank you for allowing me to be of service.



Become a FAM Birth Trustee with a **\$20/month donation** and you can participate in selecting our next grantees. www.formidwifery.org/donate

Donations also accepted by mail to:
FAM, P.O. Box 744, Harriman, NY 10926-0744

Contact us at info@formidwifery.org to discuss donations of securities or including FAM in your estate planning.

Donate to FAM with your Amazon purchases: tiny.cc/FAMsmile

What did FAM funding accomplish in 2016?

Brought together leaders of color from states struggling with some of the country's worst maternal mortality: North Carolina, Oklahoma, Georgia, and Tennessee.

MANA, Division of Access and Equity, Launching the MANA Division of Access and Equity



Data maps that told **the story of maternity care access, equity and outcomes across the nation** using data on the status of integration of midwives in each state
Home Birth Summit Research and Data Task Force, Mapping Access to High Quality Birth Care across Birth Settings

A unified data collection tool (combined MANA, American Association of Birth Centers, American College of Nurse Midwives, and Centering Health Institute), **capturing data on approximately 11% of U.S. births** for use by clinicians, researchers, clients, and policy makers.

MANA, Maternity Care Data Alliance

Produced **webinar and public education about "Relative Risk"** paper. Created waterbirth guidelines and media response.

MANA, Increasing Research-Informed Policy and Practice through Social Media and Education

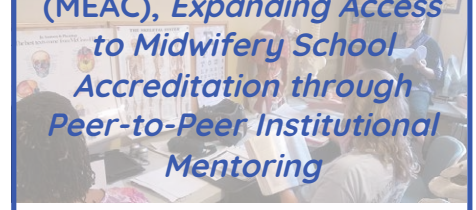


A series of events for **strategic planning with indigenous community**

Changing Women Initiative, Weaving Many Voices for Cultural and Community Wellness

New **accreditation support** program for aspiring midwifery schools.

Midwifery Education Accreditation Council (MEAC), Expanding Access to Midwifery School Accreditation through Peer-to-Peer Institutional Mentoring



Stories illustrating disparities and impact of provider type and birth setting collected through **2700 surveys** in English and Spanish.

Home Birth Summit Consumer Task Force, Giving Voice to Mothers

MANA Stats data collection with **more than 1,000 new records submitted each month**, primarily on planned home births.

MANA, DOR, Support of Operations of MANA Stats

Legal and strategic support of state organizations resulting in **3 states adopting CPM licensure laws** this year: Michigan, South Dakota, and Alabama

The Big Push for Midwives Campaign, Progressing the Push Nation



FAM Board of Directors: Emily Anesta, Laurie Foster, Janis Gildin, Vicki Hedley, Justine Hinderliter, Kirsten Kowalski-Lane, Lauren Miller, Priya Morganstern, Geradine Simkins (President)

Executive Director: Tamara Wrenn

fam MISSION

Improve maternal and child health by funding projects that advance midwifery as the gold standard in maternity care through research, public education, advocacy, and health equity initiatives.

fam VISION

Access to respectful and culturally appropriate maternity care from community-based midwives is available to all families and recognized as a human right.

fam VALUES

MIDWIFERY We respect the impact of childbearing on individuals, families, and communities and recognize midwives as essential to preserving and reclaiming the sanctity of birth.

EQUITY & SOCIAL JUSTICE We commit to funding grants that confront the intersecting social, racial, and economic factors, which result in severe disparities in maternal and child health outcomes.

INCLUSIVENESS We acknowledge the diverse backgrounds of midwives, birthing families, ourselves, and our collaborators. Our best work necessitates inclusiveness within race, ethnicity, religion, nationality, income, ability, gender, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, age, family structure, citizenship status, and other characteristics of being human.

ADVOCACY We support advocacy as a tool to dismantle institutional barriers to midwifery care and to effect tangible policy and regulatory changes.

EDUCATION & RESEARCH We recognize that transforming maternity care systems requires sustained investment in high quality research and public education about midwifery care and its outcomes.

STEWARDSHIP We commit to the responsible stewardship of funds entrusted to us by donors.

PARTICIPATION We honor the participation of our donors, volunteers, grantees, partners and allies whose myriad contributions have impacted families and maternity care systems.