

Midwifery Association of Washington State

Director at Large Position Description

Updated: July 2013

PURPOSE: Directors at large provide the Board with general support for all activities and representation within the midwifery community.

ROLE: The role of a Director is to represent the midwifery community on the Board. This includes being recognized as a resource to establish and strengthen connection, engagement and commitment to MAWS and the birth community in Washington State. Additionally, they provide support to the officers of the Board. Directors support activities, volunteer to serve or lead specific standing committees or short-term task forces. Directors are integral to the achievement of the MAWS mission. All Directors are voting members of the MAWS Board.

TERM OF OFFICE: Directors and Officers of the MAWS Board are elected for an initial term of two-years. At the end of the second year of service, Directors and Officers may be elected for successive terms, which are not limited by Bylaws of the Association.

POSITION RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Represent the midwifery and consumer perspective as a voting member to the Board,
- Serve on 1-2 standing committees or short-term task forces,
- Attend and encourage participation in MAWS events,
- Be fully conversant in the mission, and current activities of the Board; be willing to converse and engage with the midwifery community, other health professionals and stakeholders regarding MAWS activities,
- Attend and actively participate in Board meetings and the annual one-day Board meeting. Meetings are held on the first Friday of each month, except for July. Remote participation is available for every meeting, but in-person participation is strongly encouraged whenever possible. Currently meetings are held in the Seattle area, but the location is flexible based on the Board representation and composition.

KEY RELATIONSHIPS:

- Midwives and midwifery consumers – to ensure the best interest of the community are represented.
- MAWS Board – to contribute to the collaborative culture and process in service of the shared goals of the Association.
- Health professionals and stakeholders – to contribute to the positive image of midwives in Washington State, promote collaboration, and encourage donations and financial support.

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PREFERRED QUALIFICATIONS:

General qualifications include:

- Certified Professional Midwife (CPM) seeking or actively holding licensure as a Licensed Midwife (LM) in Washington State,
- Or consumers of Midwifery care in the state of Washington.
- Demonstrated commitment to MAWS and active engagement with the midwifery community.
- Interest in contributing to midwifery professional issues in Washington State.
- Leadership abilities.
- Able to think strategically.
- Team player who would complement the regional representation, diversity and capabilities of the current Board make-up.
- Commitment to give required time to Board role and responsibilities.
- Initiative, ability to make an impact in the position.
- Management experience in a free standing Birth Center or private midwifery practice.
- Legislative or lobbying experience.
- Fundraising, grant writing or research experience.
- Prior board experience is preferred, but not required.

ABOUT MAWS

The Midwifery Association of Washington State exists to promote the health and wellbeing of women and families through the development and support of the profession of midwifery. Our vision is to establish midwifery as the highest standard of care for all healthy women during the childbearing cycle. In 2012 the Board adopted four overarching themes, aligned with the values of the midwifery community and the mission of MAWS to:

1. Build a Primary Maternity Care System
2. Address Disparities and Improve Outcomes for All Women
3. Engage in Quality Improvement and Demonstrate Accountability
4. Strengthen MAWS as an Association

MAWS is governed by its Board and funded by its members.

For more information:

<http://www.washingtonmidwives.org/about-maws/about-maws.html>