

**Midwifery Association of Washington State**  
**Diversity Values Statement**  
Updated: *August 2013*

We, the Board of Directors of the Midwives Association of Washington State, recognize that there is inherent strength and essential value in attaining racial, geographic, and gender diversity in our Board membership. We stand in awareness that our fullest capacities in leadership, and in building the profession, will be reached as we strive for and commit to the fullest representation possible of Washington's midwives and the families they serve.

In full recognition that leadership is a privilege, we as a Board envision and commit to removing barriers to Board membership that arise out of racial privilege and institutionalized racism, geographical distances that have prevented full collaboration of Washington's midwives in the past, and misplaced and outdated gender norms within the midwifery community that contribute to gender inequality.

We believe that as we progress towards the full realization of this vision, that the midwifery profession as a whole, its individual professional members, and midwifery consumers will all be brought to an increased level of quality, access, collaboration, and unity that it is our goal as a community to achieve.