



FLORIDA SCHOOL OF TRADITIONAL MIDWIFERY



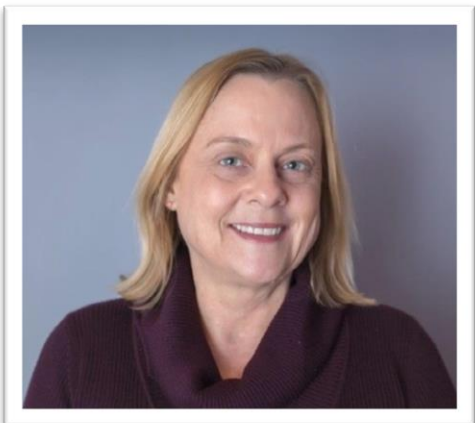
2017-2018

Annual Report

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Message from the Executive Director



Dear Friends, Students, Alumni and Supporters,

The 2017-18 fiscal year was one of hard work and of celebration at FSTM.

Hard work is certainly not unusual as we continually grow our program, student body and outreach activities. We work hard to maintain a high quality educational program, student experience and learning environment. We also celebrated a significant milestone this year:

graduating our 20th class in August of 2017. Since opening our doors in 1993 we have graduated over 130 midwives, a number that equals two-thirds of all current, active midwives licensed in Florida.

As a young first-time mother in the 1980s, I gave birth to my daughter attended by licensed midwives at the Birth Center of Gainesville. I recently learned that during that time, there were only about 25 licensed midwives in the entire state. This was the low point of licensed midwifery in Florida. From a high of more than 4,000 midwives in 1920, to near extinction in 1980, the sacred practice of midwifery was fast disappearing. Hard-won legislative changes in 1992 allowed licensed midwifery to be removed from life-support, and FSTM opened shortly thereafter to provide quality education to those who wanted to practice the world's true first profession. It is deeply gratifying to look back on the last 25 years and realize the vast impact the school has had in revitalizing the art of traditional midwifery.

As interest in midwifery and the Midwives Model of Care™ continues to grow, we are committed to fulfilling the needs of pregnant people by educating and graduating qualified and sensitive care providers to serve Florida families. We believe that midwifery is a key to strong families and strong communities, and we are thankful to be part of the solution.

Thank you!

Susan Nelson, Executive Director



OUR MISSION

The mission of the Florida School of Traditional Midwifery is to offer the finest in direct-entry midwifery education in an environment that encourages students to reach their full potential. We believe that it is our responsibility to promote awareness of and access to midwifery services. Our graduates are community-builders who use midwifery as their tool.

OUR VISION

We believe that every person should have access to the maternity care provider of their choice and to the information necessary to make informed decisions.

OUR COMMITMENT

FSTM is committed to an environment that embraces diversity, respects the rights of all individuals, is open and accessible, and is free of harassment and discrimination based on, but not limited to, ethnicity, race, creed, color, religion, age, disability, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, parenthood/pregnancy status, marital status, national origin, political opinions or affiliations, veteran status, physical appearance and genetic information. FSTM does not discriminate in its programs and activities, including employment and admissions.

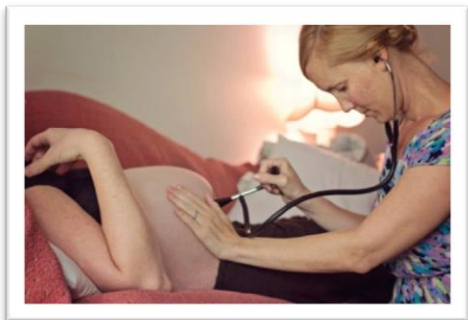


Programs and Initiatives



Cypress Grove Midwifery School

FSTM has purchased a dormant midwifery school in North Miami Beach, an area of great need for midwifery education. We have received provisional approval from the State to operate an additional school in this location, allowing us to begin the regulatory approval process. Marketing has already begun, and staff, faculty and preceptors are being vetted as we navigate the regulatory process. We anticipate opening in 2019.



Enhanced Midwifery Education Options

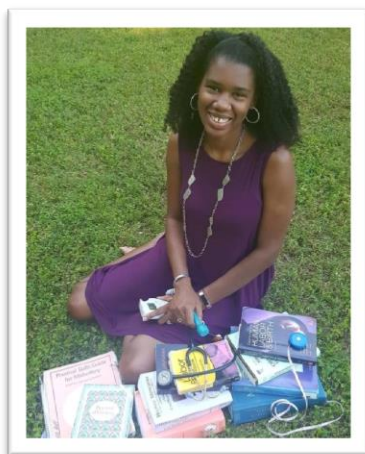
FSTM has implemented multiple options for prospective students to obtain their education and for current students and practicing midwives to receive continuing education.

Licensure by Endorsement: The LBE program allows midwives credentialed in other states or countries to become licensed to practice in Florida.

Advanced Standing Options: Students who are licensed in other medical disciplines can receive advanced standing for school credits taken elsewhere, and can complete the program in as little as two years. This option is especially popular with nurses, who have ample training in health sciences and health care skills.

Continuing Education: FSTM has launched an online continuing education program for practicing midwives and graduates to obtain CEUs in required areas and for NARM test preparation.

Online Classes: FSTM has been approved by our regulators to offer online classes to LBE students, and the regulatory process is underway for online program approval for the three-year program.



GMAP – Graduate Midwives Assistance Program

In our 25 years of operation, it has become painfully obvious that women of color face multiple obstacles to entering school, completing the program, and entering midwifery practice. To assist these women in becoming licensed midwives, we have launched GMAP. GMAP provides financial assistance to graduating students of color so they can take the licensing exam, obtain insurance and pay their licensing fees.



School Renovations

This past year we undertook Phase 1 of our restoration project for the façade of our historic building. Built in 1883, the Howard-Kelley House is a historic fixture in east Gainesville. Phase 1 included power washing, painting and replacing worn out wood and fixtures. Phase 2 will be additional wood replacement and restoration of our cottage at the

back of the property. As downtown Gainesville continues to morph and grow at a rapid pace, this historic building is increasingly important to Gainesville and to Florida history. The work is being undertaken by North Florida Painting LLC with grants from the City of Gainesville Community Redevelopment Agency and Fidelity Charitable.



Community Partnerships

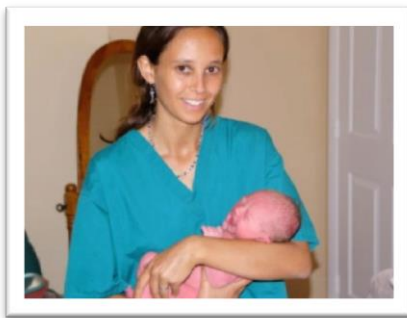
2017 marked a period of enhanced community partnership building, as FSTM became involved with several associations and programs in the community as a way to enhance the work all the groups do to further the health of Florida families:

Peace4Gainesville and the River Phoenix Center for Peacebuilding: Working with these groups FSTM assisted in bringing intimate partner violence

awareness training and trauma resilience training to staff, healthcare students and providers.

North Central Florida Breast Feeding Coalition: This large group of local health services providers is working to raise breastfeeding awareness and provide resources for successful breastfeeding for families in Gainesville and the surrounding area. FSTM will host the NCFL Breastfeeding Coalition, local vendors, families and service providers at the School for the Big Latch On event in August 2018 as a part of National Breastfeeding Awareness Week.

NewboRN Home Visit Program: Alachua County is funding a program that provides a free visit to all families of newborns in Alachua County by a nurse or midwife to share useful information, connect the family to services and resources, and simply see how the family is doing. During the visit, the RN or midwife will offer information, a physical check-up and answer any questions a mother may have. The program is a cooperative effort by Alachua County, Healthy Start, the Florida School of Traditional Midwifery, and other local service providers.



Jennifer Wollheim Devine Scholarship Fund

For over ten years the family and friends of the late Jennifer Wollheim Devine, LM, has funded a program to financially assist students struggling with unexpected expenses related to attending midwifery school. It has provided nearly \$60,000 to students and can be credited with keeping many enrolled in the program and enabling them to graduate.

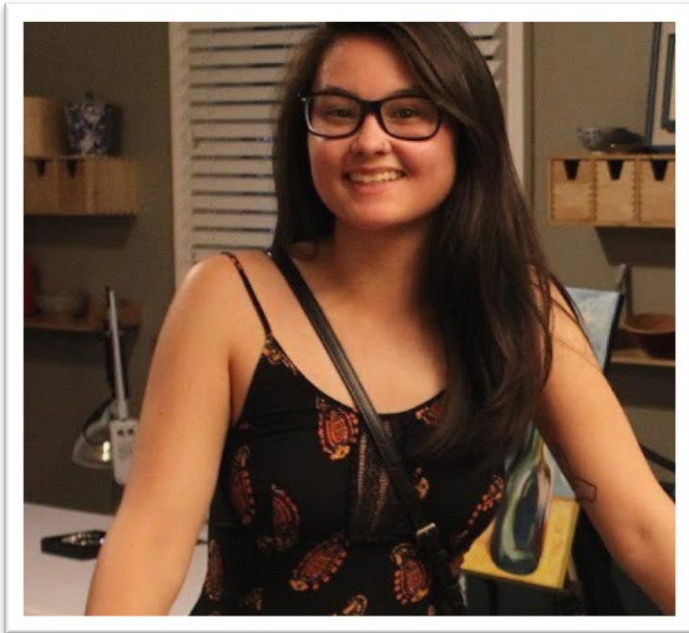


Special Events

This fiscal year included several special events aimed at building community among midwives and raising funds for FSTM. We marked our twentieth graduating class with a gala event in August, and our 28th annual International Day of the Midwife celebration on May 5th. We held our annual Holiday open house in December and our graduation

ceremony in August. We also held several well-attended open house events for aspiring students and hosted various workshops and classes. We also took part in our first Amazing Give event, an annual day for local non-profit giving.

Student Impact Story, Rosalie Blackwell



“Being a student here at FSTM has honestly changed my life. I have learned so many new things and met so many new people who I am proud to call my classmates and fellow student midwives. The experiences that I have had thus far are unlike any other that I have had while being in school. I like that the classes that I am taking are relative to my career. Whenever I am in need of help with studying or schoolwork, the staff and teachers are always there to help with study groups or spending extra time with me working on the things that I need help with. I also like that the class sizes are small which has allowed me to get to know all my

classmates personally. This also allows more room for group discussions and asking questions in class.

Being a student here has also allowed me to meet some amazing people in the world of Midwifery who I am able to learn and work alongside.

I enjoy my time here at school because I know I am in a safe place where I am respected and cared for by the staff and my classmates. And being here gets me excited to start my career as a midwife.”

Rosalie Blackwell
Class of 2020



Graduate Impact Story, Terri Williams, LM

Dear Faculty, Staff and Board of Directors,

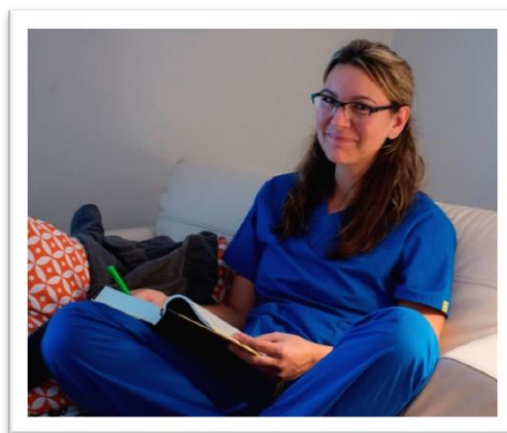
I was in the graduating class of 2012.

Through my time at FSTM, I was a single mother and struggled greatly with finances. In my second year of school I ran out of money. I told Heart Phoenix [then Executive Director] that this was my last day of school because I did not have gas money to make the drive from Orlando.

Heart informed me of an Emergency Memorial Fund and that there was

\$500.00 that I could have. I don't think I

could possibly thank the Wollheim Devine Memorial fund enough for that help all those years ago.

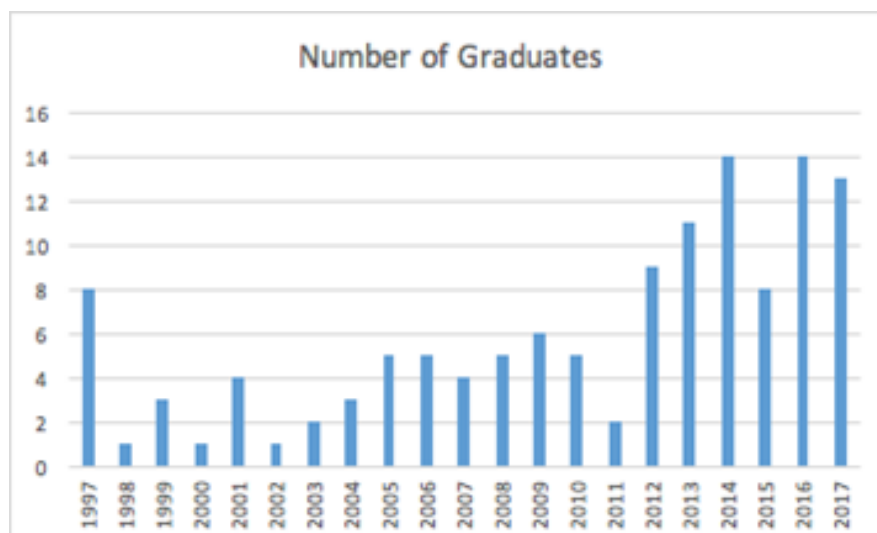


Because of that financial help I graduated school in 2012. I remain a single mother but now I have a career. I run a successful home birth practice in Orlando FL! I help women birth with respect and dignity. I support my son and I financially. I'm no longer surviving, I AM THRIVING. I would like to donate \$500 to the Wollheim Devine Memorial Fund to show my gratitude. I hope this helps another aspiring midwife.

Thank you,

Terri Williams, LM

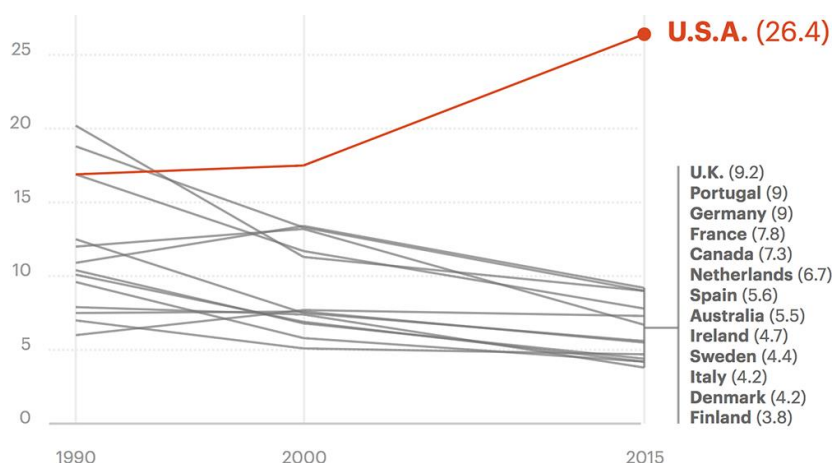
In 2017, FSTM Graduated the 20th Graduating Class



Public Health and Midwifery Care

Maternal health in the United States is in a state of emergency. While maternal mortality has decreased worldwide in the last two decades, it has increased in the US. Black women bear the brunt of this alarming statistic. Regardless of income, education, or health coverage, black women are three times as likely to die in childbirth as white women, and black babies are twice as likely to die in the first year of life as white babies.^{1,2,3,4}

Maternal Mortality Is Rising in the U.S. As It Declines Elsewhere Deaths per 100,000 live births



Notes

"Global, regional, and national levels of maternal mortality, 1990–2015: a systematic analysis for the Global Burden of Disease Study 2015." *The Lancet*. Only data for 1990, 2000 and 2015 was made available in the journal.

Source: *The Lancet*

Credit: Rob Weychert/ProPublica

Complicating this situation is the critical need for maternity care providers.⁵ By 2020 the shortage of providers is expected to be severe throughout the US.⁶ Additionally, the cost of pregnancy and birth in a conventional hospital setting can easily reach \$20,000 even for a normal, low risk delivery.⁷ Maternity-care related insurance claims represent the biggest classification of insurance reimbursement.⁸ The average cost of a Cesarean section is \$35,000^{9,10} and is performed in about 32% of all births¹¹ (50% of births in Miami Dade County¹²). This rate is significantly higher than the recommendation of 10-15% from the World Health Organization.¹³ In fact, the US is the most expensive place in the world to give birth, and has some of the worst outcomes of any developed country.¹⁴

Average 2012 Amount Paid for Childbirth

	CONVENTIONAL DELIVERY	CAESAREAN
United States	\$9,775	\$15,041
Switzerland	4,039	5,186
France	3,541	6,441
Chile	2,992	3,378
Netherlands	2,669	5,328
Britain	2,641	4,435
South Africa	2,035	3,449

Note: Amounts paid are the actual payments agreed to by insurance companies or other payers for services, and are lower than billed charges. Amounts shown include routine prenatal, delivery and postpartum obstetric care. Some care provided by practitioners other than the obstetrician – like ultrasounds performed by a radiologist or blood testing by a lab – are not included in this tally.

Source: International Federation of Health Plans

Solutions to these deep-seated problems won't be fast or easy, *but increasing the number of practicing licensed midwives (LMs) has the potential to provide dramatic improvements*. In addition to costs that are generally less than half¹⁵ the rates charged for hospital births, midwives consistently have lower C-section deliveries.¹⁶ Additionally, in Florida, 99% of babies delivered by a licensed midwife were of healthy weight, and 98% of women delivering with a midwife initiated breastfeeding.¹⁷ An increase in the number of licensed midwives providing maternity and newborn care could save billions of healthcare dollars while improving outcomes.¹⁸

These stunning results are due to the personal care offered by midwives in a setting that encourages questions, dialogue and autonomy on the part of the patient. The Midwives Model of Care™ has been proven to reduce the incidence of birth injury, trauma and cesarean section.¹⁹ Additionally, this patient-centered model has the potential to equalize outcomes across demographics, mitigating the compounded sexism and racism that results in deep-rooted health care disparities.²⁰

We believe – and research shows^{21,22} – that the Midwives Model of Care™ holds answers to many pressing issues, including healthcare disparities, the high cost of birth, and the looming shortage of maternity care providers nationwide. This vision is what guides our work, and every action and decision we make.

FSTM Leadership

Board of Directors

CHAIR: Dr. Jane F. Houston, DNP, CNM, ARNP, RM, FACNM (May 2018)
Gainesville, FL
Clinical Director, Frontier Nursing University

VICE CHAIR: Heart Phoenix
Gainesville, FL
Co-Founder and Board Chair of the River Phoenix Center for Peacebuilding

SECRETARY: Kym Dalton, CCCE, CLD, ICCE
Gainesville, FL
University of Florida: Center for Latin American Studies

Teresa Drake, JD
Gainesville, FL
Director, Intimate Partner Violence Assistance Clinic; Clinical Skills Professor;
Associate Director, Center on Children and Families, UF Levin College of Law

Susan Nelson
Gainesville, FL
Executive Director, Florida School of Traditional Midwifery

Sylvia Paluzzi
Gainesville, FL
Director/Owner of Morning Meadow School, Board President of Heart Pine
Waldorf School

MaryAnn Smith, CNM, MSN
Fort White, FL
Midwife/Consultant

Tamara Taitt, MA, LMFT, LM
North Miami Beach, FL
Director of Student Life, Equity & Access, Midwives College of Utah
Co-Founder and Administrator, Magnolia Birth House

Staff Leadership Team



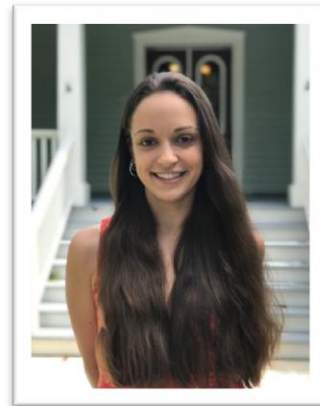
Susan Nelson
Executive Director



Amanda Mann, LM
Associate Director



Kerri Audette, LM, CPM
Clinical Director



Erica Bales
Academic Director



Michele Applegarth
Business Manager

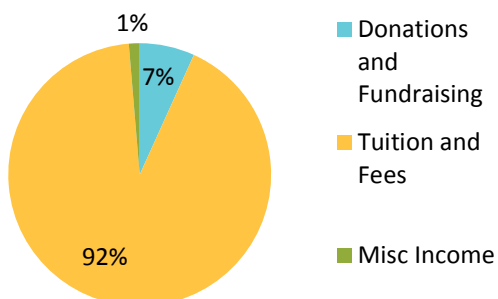


Rachel Hargy
Financial Aid Director

Resources & Financial Management

Total Revenue

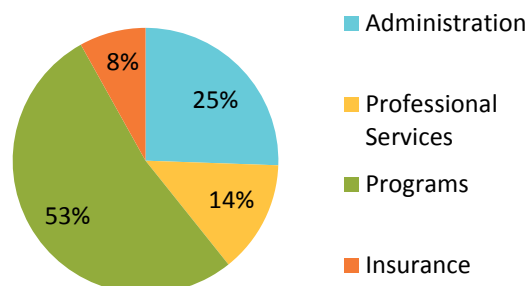
FY 2017-18



Total Revenue: \$579,371.69

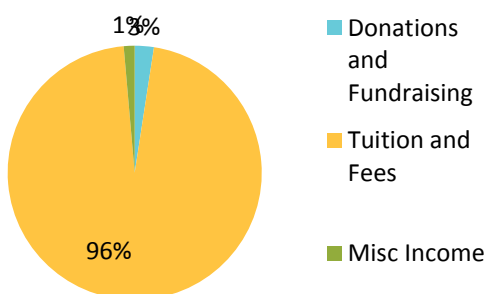
Total Expenses

FY 2017-18



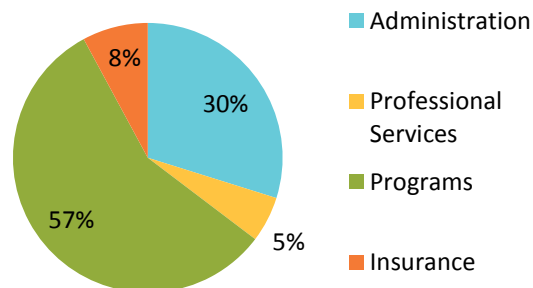
Total Expenses: \$566,173.70

FY 2016-17



Total Revenue: \$479,353.05

FY 2016-17



Total Expenses: \$512,451.16

HIGHLIGHTS

- Increased revenue by \$100,000 year over year
- Increased donations and fundraising by more than 500% from 2017
- Decreased administration costs by 5% in 2018

Thank You to All of Our Donors

Many generous donors and supporters have helped us this year to achieve our mission, with both cash and in-kind donations:

Gold

City of Gainesville Community Redevelopment Agency
Marilyn A. Wollheim-Magnet
Fidelity Charitable
Dr. Jane F. Houston
Mount Vernon Rotary Foundation
Rick Bales

Silver

Bounds Heating and Air	The Wooly
Arlyn Phoenix	George Stone
Rachel Hargy	Teresa Drake, JD
Rae Davies, The Birth Company	Susan Nelson
Sandy Johnson	Trader Joe's
Abby Reichardt	Cori Duarte
Susan Bliss	First Magnitude Brewing
Amanda Mann	Margo Dandreano
Avalon Beads	Berenice Rowell
Kattell & Company, PL	Mary Rainer
MaryAnn Smith	Charlie Rae Young
Hanna Hymans-Ostroff	Bob and Carol Gwin
Floating Lotus Spa	Laura Dawson
Lilia Cabanas	River Phoenix Center for Peacebuilding
Swamp Head Brewery	

Bronze

Floating Lotus Spa	James Medlock	Lilia Cabanas
Jessica Stevenson	Ann Geisler	Noelle Lee, D.O.
Emily Hovet	Kerri R. Audette	Veronica Stehouwer
Mary Surprenant	Sylvia Paluzzi	Karla Holt
Joan McTigue	Rum 138	Wise's Pharmacy
Caitlin Tralka	Jeffrey Weisberg	Diamond Tattoos
The Top Properties	Gaia Zori	The Pittman Family
Spencer Holt	Cynthia Stehouwer	Michele D'Angelo
Becky Martin	Jon Mann	Angie Fennell
Kristen Phillips	Emiliano's Cafe	Michele Applegarth
Sophia Cruz-Perez	Flagship Coffee	Tamara Taitt
Miriam Hill	Erica Bales	Maude's Classic Cafe
Deirdre Keeler	Monique Stevens	Christina Bennett
Janis Owens	Carrieanne Reichardt	Heather Wilkerson
Stephanie Schroeder	Laura Dawson	Jill Tralka
Jessica Willison	Jonathan Quigley	Lori S. Scott
Kellyanne Jaber	Megan Weber	

And many Anonymous contributors

FSTM Tomorrow

Our goals for 2018-19...

- Complete the regulatory and administrative tasks necessary to open our new location, Cypress Grove Midwifery School, to serve the Greater Miami community
- Publish a North American Registry of Midwives (NARM) Exam Review textbook, and launch the NARM Review on-line test preparation course
- Lay the groundwork for obtaining degree-granting status and regional accreditation
- Enhance our continuing education presence and offerings
- Complete Phase 2 of the restoration project of our historic school building
- Celebrate our 25th Anniversary
- Initiate select online courses as part of the three-year program

Beyond 2018...

- Complete the regulatory and administrative tasks necessary to become a degree-granting institution
- Graduate midwives from Cypress Grove Midwifery School, ready to serve the Greater Miami Community
- Enhance our programs to include an RN to LM track, an LM to BSM track, and an online course component

Every Penny Matters

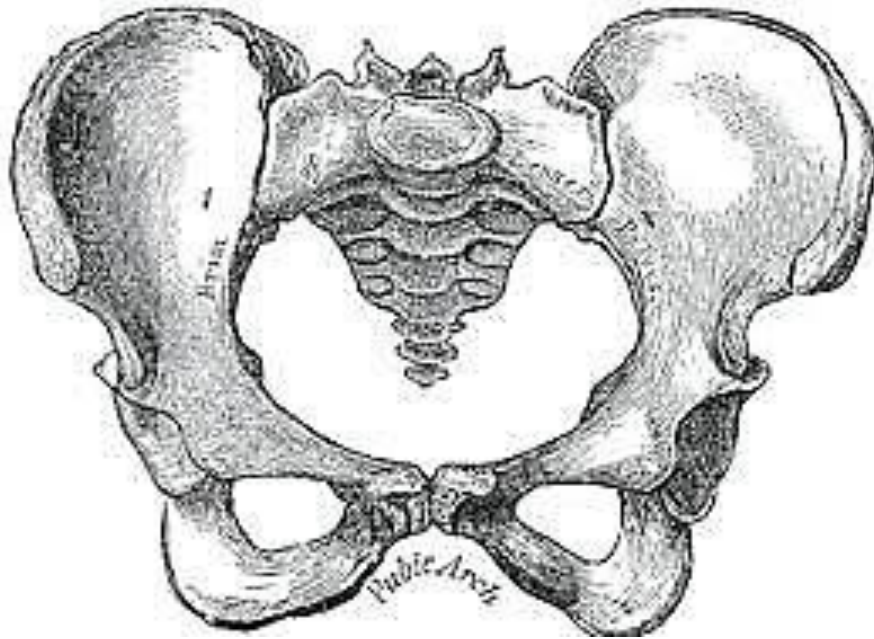
Interested in supporting our mission and our students?

Donate at our secure site:

www.midwiferyschool.org/donate/ or by mail.
Make checks payable to FSTM and mail them to
810 E University Ave., Gainesville FL, 32601.



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¹ <https://www.npr.org/2017/12/07/568948782/black-mothers-keep-dying-after-giving-birth-shalon-irvings-story-explains-why>

² <https://www.thenation.com/article/whats-killing-americas-black-infants/>

³ <https://www.nytimes.com/2018/04/11/magazine/black-mothers-babies-death-maternal-mortality.html>

⁴ <http://reviewtoaction.org/sites/default/files/national-portal-material/Report%20from%20Nine%20MMRCs%20final%20edit.pdf>

⁵ <https://www.advisory.com/daily-briefing/2016/09/01/ob-gyn-shortage>

⁶ <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC3704110/>

⁷ <http://www.floridahealthfinder.gov/CompareCare/CompareFacilities.aspx?ProdLine=149&AgeGroup=1>

⁸ <http://chqpr.org/blog/index.php/2013/01/how-to-save-5-billion-in-healthcare-spending-for-employers-and-taxpayers/>

⁹ <https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2018/jan/16/why-does-it-cost-32093-just-to-give-birth-in-america>

¹⁰ <http://www.floridahealthfinder.gov/CompareCare/CompareFacilities.aspx?ProdLine=148&AgeGroup=1>

¹¹ <https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/fastats/delivery.htm>

¹² <http://wlrn.org/post/miami-dade-moms-among-highest-c-section-rates>

¹³ http://www.who.int/reproductivehealth/publications/maternal_perinatal_health/cs-statement/en/

¹⁴ https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=3141375

¹⁵ <https://www.lakelandmidwiferycare.com/services>

¹⁶ <https://www.birthcenters.org/page/NBCSII?>

¹⁷ <http://www.flhealthcharts.com/charts/BirthQuery.aspx> Accessed 11/12/2016

¹⁸ <http://healthland.time.com/2013/01/31/midwives-say-birthing-centers-could-cut-c-section-rates-and-save-billions/>

¹⁹ <https://mana.org/about-midwives/midwifery-model>

²⁰ <https://mana.org/healthcare-policy/health-disparities-equity>

²¹ <http://journals.plos.org/plosone/article?id=10.1371/journal.pone.0192523>

²² <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0140673614609302>