PIioneer MidwifE from Virginia

As part of the celebration of the 60th birthday of the ACNM in 2015, the College is looking to spend the year honoring pioneer midwives from across the country. The College is wanting to honor and showcase our unsung heroes that have helped shape the practice and profession of Midwifery in the state of Virginia. If you would like to nominate a pioneer midwife, email virginiacnm@gmail.com with the midwife’s name and why you feel like they are our Affiliate’s unsung hero. Please have these names to the Affiliate by January 10. If there are multiple nominees (as we expect), we will make a ballot/survey to send to the Affiliate for voting.

FamiS Moms IS back!!

As of December 1, pregnant women are be able to enroll in FAMIS MOMS to receive health coverage benefits. Attached is the postcard to share in your office with clients and partners.

Save the date: 2015AffiLiate/region meeTINGS

- January 16—Visit the General Assembly in Richmond
- March 6-8—Region II Retreat in Berkeley Springs, WV, more information to come!
- April 25—Richmond Midwives Group, meeting and CEU
- June 2015—ACNM 60th Annual Meeting and Exposition, National Harbor, MD *Affiliate meeting to be announced

Happy holidays from the affiliate

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from your Affiliate!

Visit your legislator

Remember to visit your legislator while they are home and schedule a visit for January 16 when we visit the General Assembly. A list has been sent out previously that matches midwives with your representatives in Richmond. If you need this information again or have other legislative questions, contact AlexAnn Westlake who coordinated this project, awestlak@gmail.com, or our Legislative Chair Jess Jordan, jordancnm@gmail.com. For January visits, please schedule before 8:30AM, between 10-11 AM, or after 2:00PM so that you can attend committee meetings and the floor session. Lunch is being planned as a group with a debriefing by our lobbyist, Matthew Stanley.
**AFFILIATE UPDATES**

- **RICHMOND MIDWIVES:** ATTENTION ALL RICHMOND AREA MIDWIVES! A regional day for community and fellowship (along with some CEUs!) is being planned for April 25 at Kathryn Beaton’s home. Nicole Carlson, CNM will talk on obesity in pregnancy and changes in labor curves. Ann Dunbar will discuss pelvic girdle pain and postpartum diastasis. More information to follow. Questions can be sent to Leslie Fehan, lfehan@mcvh-vcu.edu.

- **EDUCATION COMMITTEE:** We are looking for volunteers to be part of a newly forming education committee. Responsibilities will include planning and organizing education days throughout the year, around the state. The main event hosted by the Affiliate is the annual fall Potpourri, but additional dates/events in other locations may serve more midwives. This is a fun way to be involved in the Affiliate. Send your name/contact information to virginiaacnm@gmail.com.

- **PROMOTING MIDWIFERY IN VIRGINIA:** A small group has begun work to customize the OMOT tools for use by midwives in Virginia. This includes powerpoint presentations, social media messages, and resources for moms and families in the state. Interested in spreading the word? Contact Reid Byrne, SNM (nancy.byrne@frontier.edu) or Katie Page, CNM (kapage@live.com). [www.ourmomentoftruth.org](http://www.ourmomentoftruth.org) or [www.midwife.org/OMOT-toolkit](http://www.midwife.org/OMOT-toolkit)

- **STUDENT VOLUNTEERS:** Calling all students! If you are interested in learning about midwifery practice and policy at the local and state level, come serve with us!

- **MIDWIFE/PRACTICE NEWS:** If you have exciting news to share—new hires, new grads, new practices, new services, or anything fun about your practice or your sister midwives—send it to virginiaacnm@gmail.com

- **SEND US FEEDBACK:** We want to know how the Affiliate can meet your individual and practice needs. Contact any of your Affiliate leaders or email virginiaacnm@gmail.com with any concerns or needs.

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**CONSUMER EDUCATION**


- **Smiles for Children** is Virginia Medicaid and FAMIS dental program. For pregnant/non-pregnant women and children under age 21, the program pays for routine visits and many problems. For women over 21, medically necessary emergency services are covered. Participating dentists can be found at [www.dentaquest.com](http://www.dentaquest.com). You can also contact the State Outreach Coordinator, Jackie Wake, Jacqueline.wake@dentaquest.com

- The March of Dimes 2014 Premature Birth Report Cards have been published and can be found on the March of Dimes website. The site includes state specific summaries. Virginia has received a grade B. **For 2013, Virginia PTB rate was 11%**. See attachments for our report card that includes recommendations to reduce PTB in our state.

- **Call the Midwife Christmas Special** will air on Christmas Day at 8pm EST — Call you local PBS affiliate and ask about ad rates to promote your practice! For help with graphic design, contact Becky Feldbush—ACNM graphic designer at rfeldbush@acnm.org

- **“Normal, Healthy Childbirth for Women & Families: What You Need to Know”** is a consumer friendly handout that shares the benefits of physiologic birth. This is available to download from ACNM
Information on meetings, events, job postings, and other fun news can be found on the website as well as the Facebook page.

Updates can be sent to:

the Affiliate email (virginiaacnm@gmail.com),
Robin Tucker—website (robin.tucker@frontier.edu),
Susana Vega—Facebook (liliwarka@yahoo.com)

- **Pregnancy and Lactation Labeling Rule (PLLRL)**: The FDA has issued a new rule on labeling pharmacologic drugs and biological products. These rules will replace the letter categories (ABCDX) and will include additional sections for women and men with reproductive potential. The new rules will go into effect **June 30, 2015**. More information can be found at the FDA website, search PLLR. I have also attached items on this rule change.

- **ACNM Fall Weekly Webinar Series**—ACNM will be hosting a weekly webinar series every Thursday from October 30-December 18. Webinars are $39 for students and $49 for ACNM members. Advance registration required. Check out the topic line-up here: [http://www.midwife.org/2014-Fall-Weekly-Webinar-Series](http://www.midwife.org/2014-Fall-Weekly-Webinar-Series)

- **Virginia Council of Nurse Practitioners**—VCNP Annual Conference will be March 25-28, 2015 at Hotel Roanoke.

- **Prenatal Alcohol Survey** Study: The University of Massachusetts Amherst College of Nursing is conducting a survey study to find out how midwives (CNMs, CMs, CPMs) and nurses (RNs, LPNs) are screening for alcohol use during pregnancy. The survey can be found here: [http://bit.ly/prenatal-alcohol-study](http://bit.ly/prenatal-alcohol-study). Questions or more information, contact the study Co-PI Caitlin Caufield, ccaufield@umass.edu, or Dr Lisa Chiodo, lchiodo@nursing.umass.edu.


- **Ebola Resources**: ACNM has gathered information and resources for midwives that are available at [www.midwife.org/ebola-resources](http://www.midwife.org/ebola-resources).

- “**Birth Matters**” is a 2014 ACNM publication designed for policy makers, payers, and health organizations that discusses how administrators can implement evidence-based policies to promote physiologic birth as part of the Health Birth Initiative. Down-