



Annual Report

2021

the
midwife
center
FOR BIRTH & WOMEN'S HEALTH

Dear Friends,

Once again, as we send our annual report to share The Midwife Center's accomplishments from the previous year, we acknowledge that we are sharing these successes in the midst of continued and significant challenges in our community and beyond. These challenges include restrictions on reproductive healthcare, including abortion and care for trans people. This is happening at a time when economic disparities grow and maternal mortality rates in our region and across the US continue to be the highest in the developed world, particularly so for Black people.

At The Midwife Center, we are determined to continue to provide quality, client-centered care, and work to expand our range of services and access to those services to serve our community. Our staff and board are deeply committed to meeting our mission and strategic planning goals to "increase our influence as a high-quality care provider in an environment with poor health outcomes and persistent racial disparity to clients of all ages, races, gender identities, sexual orientations, religions, and socioeconomic status while strengthening our personnel and financial position."

While this report focuses on 2021, we are excited that as we send this to you, The Midwife Center has launched new services to meet the needs of our community, including insemination services (IUI), as well as increased the availability of our gynecological, contraceptive, and lactation services, including our new Milk Makers support group.

Your generous support helps The Midwife Center thrive and meet these goals and challenges, and we are sincerely grateful.

Sincerely,



Christine Haas
Executive Director



Emily McGahey, DM, MSN, CNM, FACNM
Clinical Director



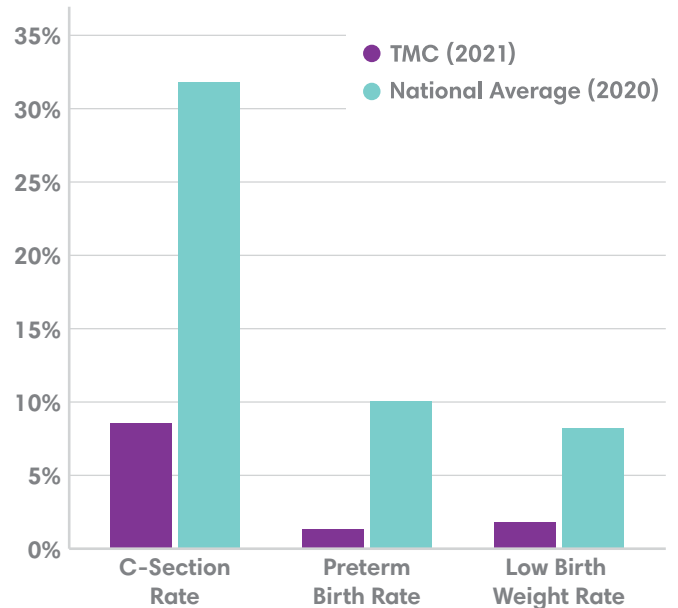
Victoria Kulli, MHA, BSN, RN
Board President

Prioritizing Maternal & Infant Health

As southwestern Pennsylvania's only independent birth center, we are uniquely positioned to improve maternal and infant health and address the racial inequities that exist in Pittsburgh and throughout the region through the midwifery model of care.

Thanks to our supporters, donors, and sponsors, we raised over \$70,000 to serve the increased needs of our clients.

TMC Outcome Statistics



National Statistics from the CDC 2020



573 POSTPARTUM

support group visits offered at no charge



NEARLY 100 clients received charity care, sliding scale discounts, and class scholarships

“Every time I visit the Midwife Center my spirits are lifted. Everyone there is so caring, thoughtful, incredibly smart, and thorough.” -Katie, client



“An inherent part of midwifery care is to pay attention to the ways in which lived experiences of stress and systemic barriers have challenged access to perinatal care.”

The pandemic has compounded pre-existing social systems that were already overburdening families. We are grateful for support to be able to dedicate staff time to increased contacts and time with clients to listen to their concerns and insights, offer community-based referrals, services and resources, and to individualize care as needed.”

-Aya Eliza-Christie, MSN, CNM

“During every step of my care with TMC, the midwives and nurses treated me and my family with respect, grace, and celebration

I was so stressed to find out my baby was breech at 36 weeks, but Emily calmly explained my options and together we found a next step that I felt comfortable with. I'm thankful for Emily's peace during a time that I could have been overcome with anxiety. TMC does a beautiful job weaving in mental health care seamlessly with their medical care. When I went into labor, my midwives and nurses were so calm, comforting, and confident. They helped me to trust in my abilities and offered guidance when needed.”

- Ali, client



“Being a part of the support group has been life changing for me.

The support and solidarity, the wisdom and advice, the different perspectives, the venting, the understanding, the life lessons, the introspection, the listening without fear of judgment, the resources, the networking - all the things! The lessons I've learned from you and others in the group have honestly changed my outlook on life, and I believe have made me a better person and a better mother. I feel so much more at peace and confident in my mothering as a result of being part of this group, and as someone who hasn't always had the most self-confidence, it's been an amazing feeling.”

- Lydia Maley, client



Prenatal, Childbirth, & Postpartum Services

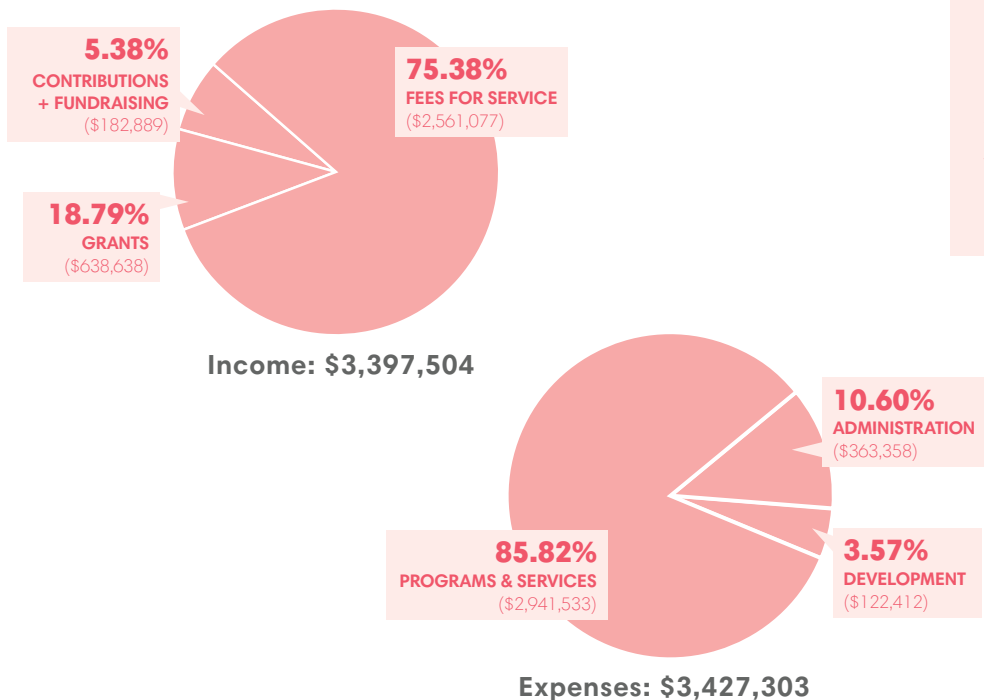
PERINATAL SUPPORT PROGRAM

The Perinatal Support Program was developed in response to increased needs of clients during the pandemic and is coordinated by Aya Eliza-Christie, MSN, CNM. In 2021, the program provided additional support calls and contacts for 130 clients between prenatal and postpartum visits, provided weekly zoom meetings for clients in their 3rd trimester, as well as connected clients to community resources to address increased financial, health and other needs.

Our Comprehensive Care & Services

TMC is committed to comprehensive care, including behavioral health & wellness, lactation support, primary gynecological care, and in-house lab services. We launched the Perinatal Therapy Group to support pregnant and postpartum clients who are experiencing depression, anxiety, and/or trauma related problems. This group, led by Jul Bibro-Ruch, LCSW, CYT, PMH-C, Behavioral Health & Wellness Specialist, supports women and birthing people through this season of pregnancy and postpartum.

2021 Finances



386
babies born
with TMC

668
2-week and 6-week
postpartum visits

4,702
prenatal visits

1,998
primary gynecological visits, including
annual exams, cancer screenings,
contraception, STI screening and testing,
and care for gynecological problems

90
colposcopies

601
behavioral visits for clients

647
postpartum support
group visits

1,030
in-house lab services, including vaccines
to protect against the flu and cervical,
vulvar, and vaginal cancers caused by
Human Papillomavirus (HPV)



20+ HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

interested in health careers were hosted for internships and visit days that involved presentations from staff midwives and nurses and the history of midwives in the US



250+

people interacted with TMC at community events

400+

people attended presentations at events organized by community partners



500+

high school students attended presentations about careers in midwifery

THANK YOU

to the entire TMC staff for working hard to keep our community safe throughout the Covid-19 pandemic and for their commitment to TMC's mission

Community Education & Engagement

The Midwife Center brought greater awareness of the benefits of midwife-led care to more communities and invested in the next generation of reproductive health providers through partnership building, education, mentorship, and more.

In 2021, TMC:

- Hosted two virtual Lunch N Learns via Facebook Live
- Hosted ten Advanced Practice Provider students for clinical placements from various universities and two nurses from the University of Pittsburgh.
- Hired Annetra Taylor, MSN, CNM, as our 17th Ruth Brexendorf Stifel Fellow
- Conducted community mentoring and outreach for community members and high school students with an interest in becoming a midwife or other health professional.

Celebrating Our Staff

EMILY MCGAHEY, DM, MSN, CNM, FACNM NAMED NEW CLINICAL DIRECTOR

Emily McGahey DM, MSN, CNM, FACNM, was named TMC's Clinical Director. During her more than ten years at TMC, Emily has initiated many projects, including a Quality Improvement Committee that guides clinical and cultural changes at TMC based on evidence, clinical expertise, and staff feedback.

STAFF ACHIEVEMENTS

- TMC staff volunteered with Pittsburgh Mercy to administer vaccines to homebound individuals throughout Allegheny County in 2021, helping to advance the rollout of the Covid-19 vaccine and ensure equitable access for more community members.
- Emily McGahey DM, MSN, CNM, FACNM was inducted as a fellow in the American College of Nurse Midwives. This Fellowship is "an honor bestowed upon those midwives whose demonstrated leadership within ACNM, clinical excellence, outstanding scholarship, and professional achievement have merited special recognition both within and outside of the midwifery profession."
- We said goodbye to Ann McCarthy, MSN, CNM, who served with TMC for seventeen years, including eleven years as the Clinical Director. Ann is currently in her second term as the treasurer of the Board of the American Association of Birth Centers. Ann continues to serve TMC as a member of the Medical Advisory Committee and as a Midwife Emeritus.

Thank You to Our Donors

Throughout 2021, you and other donors supported The Midwife Center by supporting #GivingTuesday, matching donations through workplaces, contributing through United Way (#99078), sponsoring our annual campaign, and responding to our annual appeal. We sincerely thank all of our generous donors for your support. The donors listed made gifts between January 1 and December 31, 2021.

AEO Foundation, in honor of Nathan Lyons	Navika Gadhok, in honor of Amaliya Ruth Abarca	Elsa Limbach	Jason Roth	Nancy Bernstein & Robert Schoen
Lori Albright & Bill Lauff	Denelle Galis	Jennifer Lin	Janet Ruprecht	Verna Corey
AmazonSmile	Stacie Gamble	Evelyn Locke	Sherilyn Sable	Jen Cox-Siegel
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Michele Bieltz, in memory of Lien Trang	Kate Harris & Marshall Bain	Robert & Julia McGahey, on Giving Tuesday, for all the midwives and staff at the Center for the work they have done and are doing during COVID	Carrie Tapyrik	Eileen Minnock, MS, CNM
Rachael Bieltz	Rebecca Harris, in honor of Lindsay Cashman and all her hard work as a board member	Emily McIntire	The Pittsburgh Foundation	Northwestern Mutual
Bill Flinn Agency	Art & Barbara Hawk	Tiffany & Matt Merriman-Preston, in honor of my midwife babies, Aria & August	The Sampson Foundation	PITT OHIO
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Cheryl & Dennis Bradshaw	Sherri Hickernell	Jeff Eppinger & Francesmary Modugno	Nicholas & Sarah Trbovic	PLA Insurance Services
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Jamini Davies	Rodger & Karen Johnson, in honor of the ladies who helped get us our COVID vaccine (Kara Peterson)	Sean & Sheila Oestreicher	Lisa Whitmarsh, in honor of Benjamin Zwier	UPMC
Emily Davis, in honor of the Postpartum Support Group	Sara E Jones	Ann & Thomas Ogoreuc	Shannon & Nick Williams, in honor of the TMC volunteers helping elderly community members access vaccine appointments, volunteering at clinics, and providing hope to many local families	Uptown Dental
Peter Kope & Michele de la Reza	Landon Judkins	John Orndorff	Bridgit Wolf	Jennifer Van Dam
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Margo Doss	Miriam & Robert Kerr	Julia Posteraro		Fahringer, McCarty, Grey, Inc.
Nancy Eligator, MD & Jonathan Rest, MD, in honor of Christine Haas for all the amazing work she does	Karen Knudson	Marissa Pottmeyer, in honor of Christina Harbaugh		Square Café
Emily Engelhardt	Stephan Koledin, in honor of Maxa Jun Koledin	Megan Radomski		The Steel Orchid
Bruce Fickman	Molly Kremer	Lauren Rauscher, PhD		UPMC Center for Rehab Services
Chris Flaherty	Renee Krynock	Lynne Reeder, in honor of Jennifer Judge, a fine example of a progressive woman		
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Elizabeth Fry, in honor of the Postpartum Support Group	Leah & Jerome Lang		Alpha ConnecTel	Google
	Nancy & Stanley Lehman		Janice Anderson, MD & Patricia Downey	PNC Foundation
	Wendy Levin-Shaw & Edward Shaw, in honor of Sara Gabriela Shaw		Vivian & Bill Benter	Progressive Insurance

Special Thanks

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Licensed by the Pennsylvania Department of Health
Accredited by the Commission for Accreditation of Birth Centers
Member of the American Association of Birth Centers
Member of the Greater Pittsburgh Nonprofit Partnership
Professional Memberships for the American College of Nurse Midwives
Strip District Neighbors

Partnerships

Adagio Health
AHN West Penn and Jefferson Hospitals
UPMC Magee

This comprehensive list has been reported to the best of our abilities. If any inadvertent errors have occurred, please contact us so they can be corrected: Katie Phillips, Development & Communications Associate at k.phillips@midwifecenter.org or 412-321-6880 x 208.

The official registration and financial information of The Midwife Center for Birth & Women's Health may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling toll-free, within Pennsylvania, 1.800.732.0999. Registration does not imply endorsement.

Tax ID 25-1864282

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