



### **Mandatory Disclosure Statement:**

Tiffany Miller, CCCE, Student Midwife.  
Joyful Beginnings LLC  
6180 Lehman Dr. Suite 103 | Colorado Springs, CO 80918  
719-432-9712 | tiffmiller@joyfulbeginningsbirth.com

### **Education, Training, and Experience in Midwifery--Complete Curriculum Vitae available upon request.**

My experience with midwifery care began about halfway through my first pregnancy, when I switched from a military hospital to a local free-standing birth center. I ended up having my first at that birth center, and the rest at home in my own bed. I discovered my calling to midwifery not too long after my youngest was born, and when he was only two months old, I began my professional life as a Labor Doula. I trained in 2007, and was certified by CAPP in 2009. With a passion for teaching, I also became a CAPP Certified Childbirth Educator in 2011. I maintain current certifications in Neonatal Resuscitation as well as CPR.

In 2013, I was ready to begin pursuing direct-entry midwifery in earnest, and began working as a midwife assistant. In 2014, I became a candidate for certification as a Certified Professional Midwife in the North American Registry of Midwives (NARM) Portfolio Evaluation Process. This is a traditional apprenticeship model of training specifically for out-of-hospital birth. I am currently under the direct supervision of Desirre Andrews, CPM, RM, my preceptor.

In addition to apprenticeship, I am pursuing my training through guided self-study of midwifery texts and taking relevant courses to enhance my knowledge and skills. I began taking my own clients under Desirre's supervision in July of 2016, and caught my first Primary baby in March of 2017. I have attended over 145 births since 2007, with 11 completed catches since 2016.. I anticipate sitting for my written exam in summer of 2018.

### **Philosophy of practice**

- I believe that unmedicated vaginal birth is the healthiest and safest for most women and babies, and that the midwifery model of care is best suited to provide that to the low-risk population of women who make up that majority.
- I believe that care during the childbearing year should be comprehensive in nature, with natural options at one end of the spectrum, and medical/pharmaceutical options at the other, and that all options should be available to all women who need them.
- I believe that a woman and her midwife share the responsibility for making appropriate, safe, and healthy decisions during pregnancy, labor, birth, and the postpartum period.
  - A midwife has the responsibility to use her experience and training to give accurate, evidence-based information on the benefits, risks, and alternatives of any given option, and to advise accordingly.
  - A woman has a responsibility to keep her midwife apprised of any issues, confer honestly and openly with her midwife, listen to her advice, and then make the necessary choices for herself and her baby.
- I believe that women and their families are holistic beings, and that "healthy mom, healthy baby" means that both are physically, emotionally, mentally, and spiritually intact at the end of their experience with their midwife.

### **Midwives in Colorado**

There are two types of midwives recognized by the state of Colorado: Certified Nurse Midwives (CNM) and Direct Entry Midwives. CNM's are registered nurses with additional training resulting in a Master's degree in midwifery, and generally practice in birth centers and hospitals. Some may do home births. Direct Entry Midwives attend only home births, and are usually trained in an apprenticeship model, or through a MEAC-accredited program. They are regulated by the Department of Regulatory Agencies (DORA) via the Midwives Practice Act which was most recently renewed in 2016. They are registered with the state of Colorado, and must adhere to rules and regulations set forth by DORA or risk revocation of their registration.

For more information, you may look up DORA on the web, or contact:

State of Colorado, Department of Regulatory Agencies | Office of Midwifery Registration | 1560 Broadway, Suite 1350 | Denver, Colorado, 80202

### **How I Practice & Who I Work With**

Primary Preceptor: Desirre Andrews, CPM, RM

- Her role is to supervise my care of all clients, intervening as necessary for safety or educational purposes. We essentially work as partners in care, and all legal paperwork is completed under her registration.
- Other Preceptors: Emily Thompson, CPM, RM

Others I Work Closely With: Tanya Park, CLD, Student Midwife (Assistant Under Supervision); Emily Walker, Assistant & Student Midwife (Assistant Under Supervision); Jennifer Green, CPM, RM, Robin Melkus LD, CLC, Student Midwife (Primary Under Supervision)

In the midwifery model of care and in Colorado law, certain conditions can and should result in transfer of care to a doctor during pregnancy, or transport to the hospital during/after labor and birth. Certain blood disorders, heart conditions, drug/alcohol use, or maternal health issues can all result in a transfer of care to a doctor. Other issues that may arise that may necessitate in a transfer of care or transport to the hospital include (but are not limited to) multiples, known breech babies, pre-eclampsia; gestational diabetes, pre-term labor, uncontrollable hemorrhage, etc. In addition, certain conditions must be met for a VBAC to be safely attempted at home. For the baby, the list may include certain birth defects or non-reassuring heart tones, etc. *(For a complete list of conditions that preclude home birth, see my Practice Guidelines.)*

Your midwife will work with you at your initial prenatal visit to put an appropriate emergency care plan in place. If any situation arises that necessitates transfer of care or transport to the hospital, your midwife will discuss your options verbally, assist you in a smooth transfer to an appropriate care provider, and be available to answer questions and consult with you to ensure continuity of care for you and your baby. If you are transported to the hospital, your midwife, or one of her team already familiar to you, will stay through the birth of your baby.

### **Accountability**

I do not carry liability insurance, as Colorado has determined it to be cost-prohibitive. I cannot guarantee a positive outcome at any given birth, but my clients can be sure that I will use every tool at my disposal in my knowledge, experience, and training to promote healthy and safe outcomes for every mother and baby in my care. This includes transferring care or transporting to the hospital as necessary.

In addition to direct supervision of my preceptor, I participate regularly in community-based peer review sessions with other advanced students and CPM's. I am also accountable to NARM, my certifying body, who has a Complaint Review Process to ensure integrity and safety of active candidates for Certified Professional Midwives.