



**CLIENT-MIDWIFE  
OUT-OF-HOSPITAL BIRTH  
INFORMED CHOICE CONTRACT AND AUTHORITY TO TREAT**

Welcome to Bend Birth Center LLC midwifery care! We are a full service maternity care provider offering prenatal, birth and postpartum care to pregnant women, newborns, and their families. Janette Gyesky and Dana Johnson are midwives licensed by the state of Oregon and practices pursuant to state law. According to this law, midwives are trained to follow the essentially normal woman through the childbearing cycle. It is the philosophy of this practice that the childbearing process is a healthy and normal function for the majority of women, best completed with minimum intervention and maximum education and support. Bend Birth Center believes that optimum health and safety are best achieved during pregnancy, birth and the postpartum period, when midwife and client(s) work together to share responsibility. We believe in informed consent regarding your care, which encourages you the client to take part in the decision-making process. Please do not hesitate to ask questions at any time regarding your care or the care of your family.

Whenever significant deviations from normal arise, physician consultation and possible referral for care will be sought. As licensed midwives, we will bring to your birth all the supplies and equipment we think necessary for normal childbirth in an out-of-hospital setting, such as oxygen, anti-hemorrhagics, neonatal resuscitation equipment, suctioning devices, IV equipment, suturing equipment. We are trained in neonatal and adult CPR. Having said this, it is important to note that most obstetrical complications are not true emergencies, and most are predictable beforehand. Complications are minimized with a healthy mother and a good midwife, who is skilled in appropriate obstetric screening and consistently monitors the fetus and mother during labor. Most transports to the hospital are non-emergent and not rushed. We work with all clients before their birth to create a transport plan. This allows for a smoother transition to hospital care in the rare case that it is needed.

At Bend Birth Center, we believe, birth is safest when attended by qualified attendants. This may be one licensed midwife and one or two trained birth assistants. In either case, you will have the opportunity to become acquainted with the assistant who will be attending your birth. There is a midwife on-call at all times. If the on-call midwife is unavailable, a back-up midwife will be identified and introduced.

The client may terminate the client/midwife relationship at any time and for any reason. Records will be sent upon request to another provider or given to the client. If at any time, symptoms arise that indicate that pregnancy is deviating from normal, or your choices compromise a safe out of hospital birth, Bend Birth Center, also reserves the right to terminate the contract. We will assist you in finding a more appropriate care provider.

**TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE**

Janette Gyesky, Licensed Midwife, has over 19 years experience in women's health and midwifery. She is a graduate of the Seattle Midwifery School, a three-year MEAC accredited midwifery program. She completed her clinical training in a variety of Seattle area practices and in the South Pacific island of Vanuatu. She passed the National Registry of Midwives Exam (NARM) and was previously licensed in the state of Washington, before establishing the Bend Birth Center, LLC in Bend Oregon. She has attended over 1500 births, and is currently licensed in the state of Oregon where she serves the central Oregon community.

Dana Johnson, Licensed Midwife, has 18 years experience as a birth keeper and midwife, women's holistic care practices and yoga. She began attending births in 2004 as an apprentice and doula. In 2010, Dana graduated from MEAC accredited school, The National College of Midwifery, attaining her CPM through NARM and Midwifery License in Oregon. Dana is also a certified holistic postpartum care provider, certified in pelvic floor and prenatal yoga, and extensive herbal studies for over two decades. Dana has been a part of the Central Oregon community for 25 years and continues to teach weekly pre and postnatal yoga classes at Tula Movement Arts.

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## SERVICES PROVIDED

The schedule of our midwifery care is as follows:

- Consult visit to introduce ourselves and get to know you, explain our philosophy of care, and a chance for you to ask any questions you might have. This consult visit is free of any charges.
- An Initial visit to include a physical exam, obtaining laboratory specimens and an in-depth interview on your medical history.
- Sub-sequential routine prenatal check-ups at our office following a recommended schedule: monthly visits until 28 weeks, bi-monthly until 37 weeks and weekly until delivery.
- At least one prenatal home visit in your home before the birth (if you are planning a home birth)
- Attendance at your labor and birth at home or in the birth center
- A minimum of one postpartum visit between 24 and 48 hours after delivery
- A Newborn Metabolic Screening Test (also referred to as the PKU) done on the baby between 24 and 48 hours and an again between day 7 and 14.
- A postpartum visit at four-weeks to check up on baby's growth and mom's recovery.
- A physical examination, including a pap smear and family planning visit at 6 weeks postpartum
- 24-hour on call availability of a midwife
- Lending library and community resource referrals
- Lastly empathy, understanding and insight both medical and social from three caring midwives

## ELIGIBILITY FOR CARE

Midwives are trained in the care of "low-risk" women during the childbearing year. As part of our training we recognize and screen for potential problems in the prenatal, intrapartum, and postpartum periods. In accordance with Oregon state law, the following are conditions for which physician consultation and/or referral are required. Please review the following lists excerpted from the Oregon law, and inform us of any current conditions or questions and we will gladly explain the reasoning behind the guidelines we follow.

### ANTEPARTUM ABSOLUTE RISK CRITERIA:

Active cancer, Cardiac disease, Severe renal disease - active or chronic, Severe liver disease - active or chronic, Uncontrolled hyperthyroidism, Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, Essential chronic hypertension over 140/90, Pre-eclampsia / eclampsia, Acute or chronic thrombophlebitis, Current substance abuse known to cause adverse effects, Incomplete spontaneous abortion, Hemoglobin under 9 at term, Placental abruption, Placenta previa at onset of labor, Persistent severe abnormal quantity of amniotic fluid, Blood coagulation defect, Amnionitis; ectopic pregnancy, Pregnancy lasting longer than 43 weeks gestation (21 days past the due date), Pregnancy lasting longer than 42 weeks (14 days past the due date) with an abnormal non-stress test, Any pregnancy with abnormal fetal surveillance tests, Rupture of membranes for greater than 72 hours before the onset of labor with chorioamnionitis, Secondary herpes that cannot be covered at the onset of labor, HIV positive status with AIDS, Higher order multiples (3 or more).

### MATERNAL ANTEPARTUM NON-ABSOLUTE RISK CRITERIA:

Conditions requiring on-going medical supervision or on-going use of medications. Significant glucose intolerance, Inappropriate fetal size for gestation, Significant 2nd or 3rd trimester bleeding, Abnormal fetal cardiac rate or rhythm, or decrease of movement, Uterine anomaly, Anemia (hematocrit less than 30 or hemoglobin less than 10 at term), Seizure disorder requiring prescriptive medication, Platelet count less than 75,000, Previous uterine incision other than low transverse cesarean and/or myomectomy with review of surgical records and/or subsequent birth history, Isoimmunization to blood factors, Psychiatric disorders, History of thrombophlebitis and hemoglobinopathies, Twin gestation, Malpresentation at term.

## SELECTING A DOCTOR FOR YOUR NEWBORN

The midwives at Bend Birth Center are trained to perform a newborn exam following the birth, perform newborn metabolic screening (PKU), administer vitamin K and prophylactic eye ointment immediately after the birth, and to recognize any deviations from normal through the first 6 weeks of life.

However, midwives are not pediatricians, therefore after your baby is born, s/he then becomes a patient of a pediatrician or family doctor. It is your responsibility to make sure your baby is seen by a private physician. If any deviations from normal are observed by a midwife or if the doctor's policy is to see the baby immediately after the birth, it is your responsibility to have your baby be seen by a pediatrician or family doctor. We will discuss this more and provide referrals within your second trimester.

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## METHODS OF PAYMENT

### For those Clients paying out-of-pocket

We are willing to work with you in any way we can to help you pay for our care. A mutually agreed upon payment and fee schedule will be discussed and agreed upon at acceptance of care. A non-refundable deposit of \$300 is required at the start of care to insure your space within our schedule. If for any reason you are unable to pay for care rendered it is your responsibility to contact us **immediately**. Non-payment will result in your care being terminated.

### For Clients with private insurance

It is your responsibility to obtain a verification of coverage from your insurance company prior to receiving care. It is important to get this verification **in writing. It must state that your insurance company covers licensed direct-entry midwives.** You are responsible for your deductible as well as any services not covered by your insurance company. Some insurance companies will send you money for the services we billed. If this happens please email or call us right away to let us know, deposit the check in your account, then send us a check from your account along with a copy of the insurance statement sent to you. Occasionally insurance companies do not pay the claims as expected. If this happens, you are responsible for your bill.

**For clients transferring care into Bend Birth Center from another provider:  
Bend Birth Center will calculate your bill to reflect only those services you received.**

## SCHEDULE OF FEES

The Bend Birth Center fee for complete prenatal, birth and postpartum care is \$6,200. This includes all prenatal visits including home visits, on-call fee; labor, birth and immediate postpartum care; and follow-up postpartum visits. There is an additional facility fee of \$3,000 for those clients desiring to have their baby in the birth center. This fee is for every 12 hour period, you remain at the Birth center and billed accordingly. The basic fee (not the facility fee for birth center births) is discounted if paid by week 28 by 5%. This amount comes to \$5,900. If the discount is not paid by 28 weeks the full amount of \$6,200 is due by the 36<sup>th</sup> week.

Services and screening tests **not included** in the basic fee are outside laboratory and ultrasound services, which when required are billed by those agencies offering those specific services. Hospitalization and emergency services are also the responsibility of the client.

Additional charges for any supplementary care will be billed. These include, but are not limited to:

- Abnormal Genetic Screening
- Preterm labor/ and or delivery
- Rhogam injections for rhesus negative clients
- High risk situations necessitating closer follow-up

Should care be terminated before labor begins, you are responsible for care received. If you have overpaid, you will receive a refund within 90 days.

### Hospital Transfer

We have always had the practice of staying with our clients when hospital transfer is necessary. In doing so we continue our support and advocacy, which we believe eases the anxiety of transfer. For this care we charge a \$700 flat rate. In the event of a hospital transfer, midwives lose the ability to bill your insurance provider for the time spent in the hospital and in most cases at your labor before going to the hospital. Insurance companies consider this a duplication of services, and we receive no compensation for our time at your labor and in the hospital.

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I authorize any member of Bend Birth Center staff to provide my baby and I with the following:

- Healthcare, including prenatal education
- Physical examination as necessary
- Obtaining blood or other specimens for laboratory studies (including CBC; minor blood factor antibody screen; STI and syphilis screening; Hepatitis B surface antigen; blood group and Rh-type; rubella titer; ultrasound and Pap Smear if indicated.)
- Monitoring labor and assisting delivery of my baby
- Newborn assessment and newborn screening tests
- Postpartum care
- Appropriate measures in an emergency including use of specialized equipment
- Transfer of mother and/or baby to the closest hospital facility in emergent situations or when the midwife believes hospital care with an OB and/or perinatologists, etc. would be the safest course of care for mother or baby
- Other procedures related to childbearing as may be necessary or advisable, with thorough explanation and my consent

I understand that in order for my midwife to provide me with adequate care, I need to be an active participant in my maternity care. This includes maintaining regularly scheduled appointments. I agree to arrive on time for scheduled appointments and kindly give 24-hour advanced notice if I cannot make an appointment, with the exception of an emergency.

I am aware that as a practice, Bend Birth Center does not carry malpractice insurance. Any dispute or claim that arises out of or relates to this agreement, or care given and received, or to the interpretation or breach thereof, or to the existence, scope, or validity of this agreement or the arbitration agreement, shall be resolved by arbitration in accordance with the then effective arbitration rules of (and by filing a claim with) Arbitration Service of Portland, Inc., and judgement upon the award rendered pursuant to such arbitration may be entered in any court having jurisdiction thereof. The parties acknowledge that mediation helps parties settle their dispute and any part may propose mediation whenever appropriate through Arbitration Service of Portland, Inc. or any other mediator selected by the parties.

I acknowledge that I have read all the sections above and that I understand and agree with their contents.

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Client Signature**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian (if under 18)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Janette Gyesky, LDM

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Dana Johnson, CPM, LDM

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\*Bend Birth Center prides itself in offering superior care. We would like to know if at anytime your needs are not being met. We pride ourselves on open and honest communication. If at anytime you feel like there is an issue that we are not able to come to some sort of agreement on, we encourage mediation.