



State of Louisiana
Louisiana Department of Health
Office of Public Health

LOUISIANA DOULA REGISTRY MEETING
March 23, 2022
2:00 PM-3:00 PM

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://zoom.us/j/96967531959?pwd=MGlvNWRZdFdobW5lN2lIZkREUHBxUT09>

Meeting ID: 969 6753 1959

Find your local number: <https://zoom.us/u/adaj2Vi59u>

AGENDA

I. Call to Order

Members present: Regina Hall, Jennifer Wakefield, Adreanna Alleyne, Dawn V Collins, Gia Hamilton, Shanika Valcour-LeDuff, Zana Washington, Taylor Cincore and Victoria Williams and Keshia Holmes

Members not in attendance: Nicole Chaisson, Tiffany Wyatt, Jasmin Williams and Meshawn Tarver

Non-Voting Members: Frankie Robertson, Kiley Mayfield, Jennifer Latimer, Cindy Caroon, Theresa Graham, Dr. Floyd Roberts, and Dr. Rodney Wise.

Non-Voting Members not in attendance: Jade George and Jaime Wessler

Guest: Dr. Veronica Gillispie- Bell, Cara McCarthy, Amanda Perry

III. Review/Approval of Previous Meeting Notes

- With a quorum present, meeting notes from February 23, 2022 were approved.

IV. DISCUSSION:

a. Appointing Members of Non- Voting Position

- Filled Positions
 1. Representative from Institute of Women & Ethnic Studies
 2. Representative from National Birth Equity Collaborative
 3. Certified Professional Midwife
 4. Community Nurse Practitioner
 5. Representative from Louisiana Medicaid
 6. Representative from Louisiana Hospital Association
 7. Representative from Louisiana private health insurer
 8. Representative from March of Dimes
- Vacant Positions

1. Representative from New Orleans Breastfeeding Center
2. Obstetrician
3. Certified Nurse Midwife

* Please send recommendations for vacant positions to Dawn Collins at Birth.Family@outlook.com and Keshia Holmes at Keshia.Holmes@la.gov. Please implement the first and last name, email address, and telephone number of the individual(s) you are recommending for vacant positions.

b. Louisiana Doula Application

- What is the definition of a Doula?
 - A Doula is a trained professional who provides continuous physical, emotional and informational support to a mother before, during and shortly after childbirth to help her achieve the healthiest, most satisfying experience possible.
 - The committee has unamously agreed on the Doula definition.
- What are the requirements to become a Doula in Louisiana
 - Certificate of Completion Doula Training-
 1. The Doula has completed the course work and has an understanding, knowledge and skills to service clients.
 - Certifications are optional –
 1. A certain number of births must be attended from beginning to end
 2. To obtain certification there may be additional cost
 - Victoria Williams stated certification does not mean you are higher in service than any other Doula. Certification only means a particular organization offers certification, and you are “certified” by that organization.
 - The National Doula Network does not require certification.
 - Dr. Veronica Gillispie- Bell states Minnesota requires a certification:
 - ❖ Minnesota Doula Registry Homepage:
<https://www.health.state.mn.us/facilities/providers/doula/index.html>
 - ❖ Minnesota Doula Registry Application:
<https://www.health.state.mn.us/facilities/providers/doula/docs/doulaapplic.pdf>
 - Kiley Mayfield states Virginia requires the following requirements:
 1. Doula services shall be provided by qualified individuals who are at least 18 years of age.

2. Doulas must complete doula training, which must include the following:
 - i. Core competencies (perinatal support services, labor support)
 - ii. Community-based/cultural competency training
 - iii. Care coordination.
 - The group unanimously **DOES NOT** desire certification to be a requirement for the registry.
- What will be the requirements for Doulas to be listed on the LA Doula Registry
 - All Doula and Midwives would be able to join the registry.
 - Applicants will be advised that membership in the Doula Registry does not guarantee their services will be covered by insurance providers.
 - Requirements for the application process should not be too restrictive, resulting in limited individuals being on the registry.
 - Jennifer Wakefield suggested a specific curriculum to be implemented before the committee decides on the standard of being a Doula. Not all trainings are equal.
 - The committee has decided to focus on the application process for the Doula Registry. Then, focus on the scope of practice for the Doula Registry.

III. Upcoming Meetings

- Occurs the fourth Wednesday of every month
 - Wednesday, April 27, 2022 2:00PM-3:00PM
 - Wednesday, May 25, 2022 2:00PM-3:00PM
 - Wednesday, June 22, 2022 2:00PM-3:00PM
 - Wednesday, July 27, 2022 2:00PM-3:00PM
 - Wednesday, August 24, 2022 2:00PM-3:00PM
 - Wednesday, September 28, 2022 2:00PM-3:00PM
 - Wednesday, October 26, 2022 2:00PM-3:00PM
 - Wednesday, November 23, 2022 2:00PM-3:00PM
 - Wednesday, December 28, 2022 2:00PM-3:00PM

V. PUBLIC TESTIMONY- No public testimony

VI. OTHER BUSINESS- No public testimony

VII. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- The Birth Story Project, Sista Midwife Productions, and AmeriHealth Caritas will be hosting a drive-through baby shower and birth story circle at Harbor Community Collective in New Orleans on Saturday, March 26, 2022, from 11:00 AM-1:30 PM.

- Community Collective in New Orleans on Saturday, March 26, 2022, from 11:00 AM-1:30 PM.
- The National Birth Equity Collaborative, Birthmark Doula Collective, Institute of Women & Ethnic Studies, March of Dimes, and The Amandla Group will be hosting Black Maternal Health Advocacy Day on Wednesday, April 13, 2022. To register, please click the link: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/black-maternal-health-advocacy-day-tickets-302848296407>
- City of NO: As part of the pre-accreditation process for a nurse-midwifery education program at Loyola University New Orleans. The city of New Orleans is gathering information in the form of a community survey as to public opinion on the current crisis in Maternal-Child healthcare. To take the brief survey, please click the link: <https://forms.gle/kWLDPdjnxXanPXtQ7>

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Persons who do not feel comfortable giving testimony in person may submit a prepared statement in accordance with Senate Rule 13.79, in lieu of appearing before the sub-committee. Statements may be emailed to Keshia.Holmes@la.gov and must be received by Keshia Holmes at least three hours prior to the meeting to be included in the record for this meeting.

Audio/visual presentations, such as PowerPoint, must be received by Keshia Holmes at Keshia.Holmes@la.gov at least twenty-four hours **PRIOR** to the scheduled start of the Doula Registry meeting for review and prior approval. This meeting is virtual as a precaution to decrease the spread of COVID-19.