

## Why choose a Certified Nurse Midwife?

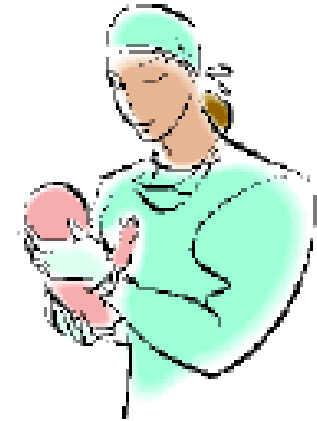
CNMs at *WomenFirst* are Professional health care providers who have advanced graduate degrees from programs accredited by the American College of Nurse-Midwives. CNMs must pass a national certification examination and meet strict state health agency requirements in order to practice. Certified Nurse Midwives practice and collaborate with Board Certified Obstetricians and Gynecologists. This team approach exceeds traditional health care standards for women.

Benefits of selecting CNMs include:

- Safe personalized health care
- A lifetime of care—adolescence through menopause
- A 60 year heritage
- An outstanding record—CNMs reduce mortality and morbidity for mothers and infants

### Comprehensive Women's Services

- Pregnancy Care
- Hospital based Delivery
- Pre Conception Counseling
- Gynecology
- PMS
- Family Planning
- Perimenopausal Care
- Menopausal Care
- Abnormal Paps/Colposcopy



### *WomenFirst: Midwifery, Inc.*

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**Midwifery,  
Obstetrics, and  
Gynecology**

**With women's  
unique health  
needs first and  
foremost**

**Deborah J Riddell, APN CNM MS**

**Jennifer Baxter, APN CNM MS**



## Mission Statement

*As we believe fundamentally in the wisdom of the natural processes and the blessing of a healthy body, and that medical intervention should be used judiciously and only when necessary, our mission is:*

- *To provide the highest quality, comprehensive health care services to all women without regard to race, creed, or financial status*
- *To deliver health care in a manner which respects each woman's differences and individuality*
- *To deliver health care as a true partnership with the woman fully informed of choices and equipped to make decisions for her health*
- *To deliver health care inseparable from compassion*



**Deborah J. Riddell**  
APN, CNM, MS

Deborah received her Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree from Northern Illinois University in 1973 and shortly thereafter began working at the 1st hospital in Illinois to allow fathers to attend their children's birth. In 1974 she expanded her role by also becoming a certified childbirth educator. Deborah's dream of serving women as a CNM became reality in 1982, and she received her Master of Science from the University of Illinois Chicago Medical Center in 1983.

She pioneered the concept of midwifery in the Aurora and Fox Valley area in 1987—working to give women



choosing hospital births personalized attention and alternative choices. She has worked alongside various Board Certified Obstetricians/Gynecologists, and Neonatologists in the area.

Pioneering again in 1997, she opened **WomenFirst**. **WomenFirst** has taken women's healthcare into the new millennium with old fashioned, fundamental values: respect and compassion, expertise and personal attention. Deb and her husband, Keith, have three children and live in Batavia.



**Jennifer Baxter**  
APN, CNM, MS

Jenny was born and raised in Aurora. She graduated with her Bachelor of Science in Nursing from Aurora University in 1996. During college, she became acquainted with Deb and the profession of midwifery.

Jenny started her career as a registered nurse at Provena Mercy Medical Center's Family Birth Center. She especially enjoyed working closely with Deb and other area midwives, supporting women as they brought their children into the world.

In 2004, Jenny received her midwifery certificate from the Frontier School of Midwifery and Family Nursing in Hyden, KY and her Master of Science in Nursing from Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, OH. She joined the staff at **WomenFirst** as a Certified Nurse Midwife in October, 2005.

Jenny and her husband, Brian, have four children. With the help of midwifery care, she feels all her birth experiences were extraordinary. She is passionate about providing women with the exceptional birth experience and ongoing health care that they desire and deserve.



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