How to Start a Freestanding Birth Center in Response to COVID-19 Crisis

American Association of Birth Centers
Panelists

Amy Johnson-Grass, ND, LN, LM, CPM
Health Foundations Birth Center + Women’s Health Clinic

Aubre Tompkins, CNM
Seasons Midwifery and Birth Center
Regulatory Concerns

- Are birth centers licensed in your state?
- If so, who oversees the licensure?
- If not, are there laws to consider?
Payors

- Identify insurers in your area
- Contact insurance companies
- Credentialing
- Contracting
- Medicaid
Provider Types

• Who can practice in a birth center in your state?
• What provider types can bill for services?
• Malpractice insurance
• Birth assistants?
Location

• Birth center regulation
• Zoning requirements
• Physical requirements
Access to Equipment & Supplies

• Medical equipment/PPE
• Medications
• Non-medical needs
Financing

• Contact bank about COVID-19 changes
• Local vs. national banks
• Business plan
• Corporate status (lawyer)
• Budgets (Accountant)
• Creative funding
Training

• Is available staff comfortable/experienced with community birth?
• Credentialing process
• Safety drills
• EMS services
Collaboration

- Hospitals
- Community birth professionals in your area
- Additional referral source
AABC Resources – BirthCenters.org

• AABC How to Start a Birth Center Workshop (online)
• Sample Policies & Procedures Manual
• Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI) Manual
• AABC Member Forums
• Slide deck - *Birth Centers in the United States: Policy, Regulation and Access to Care*
• Customizable marketing video
• Industry Relations Toolkit
CABC Resources

BirthCenterAccreditation.org

• CABC Accreditation – Indicators
Questions?

AABC Toolkit: COVID-19

BirthCenters.org/toolkit-covid19