

Dear Representative,

We are the owners of Bella Vie Gentle Birth Center. There are two bills we would like to draw your attention to. One is HB 3456 that would require insurance companies in the state of Oregon to follow the affordable care act (section 2301) by mandating that they pay for the services of licensed midwives working in birth centers. The other, HB 3451, would require that the Oregon Health Authority pay birth center facility fees, providing care to a medical assistance recipient in an amount equal to the median cost incurred by the birthing center for such care. Though the bills seem similar, they are actually providing for quite different needs to birth centers in the State of Oregon.

The passage of HB 3456 would stop the practice of Community Care Organization's (CCOs) own medical director or contracting department to make these decision themselves, rather than following the federal mandates in the Affordable Care Act. CCOs not following these mandates has been an expensive and inconvenient factor when staffing most birth centers in the state of Oregon. For us at Bella Vie, it means that the births that we get paid the least for, (medicaid in general pays far less than other insurance companies,) are the most expensive ones as we have to pay our certified nurse midwives (who are in general more costly to employ,) for all of the pregnancy and birth care provided to these women. Since July of 2010, medicaid in all states has been mandated to pay for licensed midwives providing care in birth centers. Despite our repeated attempts at communicating with them, many of Oregon's CCOs have been uncooperative in doing so, stating that they will not pay this provider type until they receive CMS guidance. CMS sent correspondence to the region in 2011, that this mandate should be followed. We have been personally told by an employee at one of the CCOs that they know they are not following the Affordable Care Act. Please help make certain that they are held accountable! Also notable is that this would not cost medicaid more money but it would save our birth center money that is needlessly spent, which would be a welcomed help in this economy.

We offer 1-hr prenatal appointments, compared to the national average of 6-15 minutes. Birth Centers, and midwives in general, boast exceptional birth statistics - lower induction rate, cesarean section rate, vaginal tear rate, lower hemorrhage, pre-eclampsia rate is almost non-existent, and we have far fewer NICU admits. The care that we provide extends beyond routine obstetrical care and has better outcomes overall. This in turn saves money that is spent on costly interventions.

As stated above, HB 3451 would require the Oregon Health Authority to reimburse birth center facility charges at a rate that would cover the expenses of the birth centers. Last year, Bella Vie paid out an additional \$64,000 above what the Oregon Health Authority reimbursed us for the care of women on medicaid. For us, in this economy, the disparity of cost vs. income is far too great to afford. This bill would require that we were paid more appropriately for our facility care. As it currently stands, we are paid the facility fee that was decided on in 1999, however at that time it was paid for each calendar date that a patient was admitted. Now, we are only being reimbursed that same fee per patient admission (so one time for the entire 2-3 day stay). We are paying more for expenses and getting half or one-third of what they deemed appropriate sixteen years ago.

Passage of both of these bills will impact birth centers by allowing us to be paid for the work that we do. It will also impact women and their families, by allowing them this desired option. Every business day, we receive calls from women on medicaid who would like to have care in our birth center. It isn't uncommon for women on medicaid to actually take more care, education and nutritional counseling, and our one-hour prenatal appointments are just what they need to become the educated, healthy, empowered new mothers that they are when they leave our care.

Midwives help preserve and promote wellness. These low income women are able to be supported in pregnancy by midwives. We do not expect to make money on the care we provide, but operating at a loss is not a sustainable option. Please support us by voting "yes" on HB 3456 and HB 3451.

Sincerely,

Desiree LeFave, Practice Manager & Petra Prostednik, Business Director

Bella Vie Gentle Birth Center
13160 Jerusalem Hill RD NW
Salem, OR 97304
[503-315-2229](tel:503-315-2229)

www.gentlebirthcenter.com

Your Statistics

These statistics are based on your data forms currently in our system. (Some of these data forms may still be with the Data Review Team for review--your [Data Form Archive](#) shows the status of all your forms.) These aggregate statistics represent your births only (births for which you are listed as Midwife 1, 2, or 3 on the data form). If you are a member of a practice, sign in using your practice account to see statistics for the practice as a whole.

Statistics report on: outcomes of clients in your care for labor/birth

Filters

Listed as: all midwife 1 midwife 2 midwife 3

Form Type: all Date Range: all

web-entered prospective previous calendar year

retrospective i this calendar year so far

custom date range

Birth Place: Transport: Birth Mode: Parity:

all all all all

Home non-transport vaginal primips

Birth Center transports cesarean multips

Hospital

Other

These statistics are based on completed and submitted births only.

Any fetal losses and deaths are reported as "not yet reviewed" if the Midwives Alliance Data Review Team has not yet completed review of those data forms; they are reported as "confirmed" if the review has been completed.

[Note on percentages](#)

[Note on multiple births](#)

[Note on forms in review](#)

[Data forms used in this report](#)

Outcomes of Clients in Your Care for Labor/Birth	
Births that match your search i :	118
Parity:	First-time mothers: 23 (19.5%) Multiparas: 95 (80.5%)
Average age at booking:	29
Mothers with a previous caesarean:	13 (11.0%)
Total induction attempts in your care:	13 (11.0% of all births in report)
Uses of drugs: 3	
Uses of non-drug methods: 10	
Total augmentation attempts i :	none (2004-2011 births only)
Uses of drugs: 0	
Uses of non-drug methods: 0	
Vaginal births:	114 (96.6% of all babies in report)
Homebirths (as planned):	16 (13.6% of all babies in report)
Waterbirths:	56 (47.5% of all babies in report)
VBACs:	12 (10.2% of all births in report; 92.3% success rate)
Vaginal breech births (home or hospital):	1 (0.8% of all babies in report)
Vaginal births over intact perineums:	61 (51.7% of all births in report)
Vaginal births with only abrasions/splits:	7 (5.9% of all births in report)

1st- or 2nd-degree tears:	42 (35.6% of all births in report)
3rd- or 4th-degree tears:	4 (3.4% of all births in report)
Episiotomies:	none
Births using forceps/vacuum:	1 (0.8% of all babies in report)
Caesarean births:	4 (3.4% of all babies in report)
Intrapartum transports:	7 (5.9% of all births in report) (3 (2.5%) urgent)
Postpartum maternal transports:	4 (3.4% of all births in report) (1 (0.8%) urgent)
Neonatal transports:	2 (1.7% of all babies in report) (1 (0.8%) urgent)
Shoulder dystocia:	none
Thick or particulate meconium:	none
Blood loss over 500 ml:	19 (16.1%) vaginal, none cesarean
Blood loss over 1000 ml i :	3 (2.5%) vaginal, none cesarean
Pre-eclampsia/eclampsia during pregnancy/labor:	none
Multiple births/twins:	none
Male/female babies:	51 (43.2%) / 66 (55.9%) (1 unspecified/ambiguous)
Average baby weight:	8.3 lbs/3751 g
Babies under 6 lbs/2722 g:	2 (1.7%)
Babies 6-9 lbs/2722-4082 g:	92 (78.0%)
Babies over 9 lbs/4082 g:	21 (17.8%)
Babies with no weight specified:	3
Breastfeeding as of last postpartum visit i :	117 (99.2%)
Note: The death-related statistics below do not include any births in which you transferred care before labor began. For details of these births, see the report on Clients Who Left Your Care During Pregnancy.	
IUIDs occurring antepartum with labor/birth in your care:	0 confirmed, due to anomalies 0 confirmed, not due to anomalies 0 not yet reviewed
IUIDs occurring intrapartum with labor/birth in your care:	0 confirmed, due to anomalies 0 confirmed, not due to anomalies 0 not yet reviewed
IUIDs occurring at unknown point with labor/birth in your care:	0 confirmed, due to anomalies 0 confirmed, not due to anomalies
Infant deaths before 6 weeks postpartum:	0 confirmed, due to anomalies 0 confirmed, not due to anomalies 0 not yet reviewed
Maternal deaths before last postpartum visit/6 weeks postpartum:	0 confirmed, pregnancy-related 0 confirmed, not pregnancy-related 0 confirmed, unknown whether pregnancy-related 0 not yet reviewed

Web site and data forms ©2004-2015 Midwives Alliance Signed in as: Desiree LeFave

Outcomes of Clients in Your Care for Labor/Birth	
Births that match your search <input type="text"/> :	117
Parity:	First-time mothers: 43 (36.8%) Multiparas: 74 (63.2%)
Average age at booking:	28
Mothers with a previous caesarean:	8 (6.8%)
Total induction attempts in your care:	9 (7.7% of all births in report)
Uses of drugs:	3
Uses of non-drug methods:	7
Total augmentation attempts <input type="text"/> :	none (2004-2011 births only)
Uses of drugs:	0
Uses of non-drug methods:	0
Vaginal births:	112 (95.7% of all babies in report)
Homebirths (as planned):	none
Waterbirths:	56 (47.9% of all babies in report)
VBACs:	7 (6.0% of all births in report; 87.5% success rate)
Vaginal breech births (home or hospital):	none
Vaginal births over intact perineums:	42 (35.9% of all births in report)
Vaginal births with only abrasions/splits:	10 (8.5% of all births in report)
1st- or 2nd-degree tears:	50 (42.7% of all births in report)
3rd- or 4th-degree tears:	3 (2.6% of all births in report)
Episiotomies:	1 (0.9% of all births in report) (1 by midwife, 0 after transport)
Births using forceps/vacuum:	none
Caesarean births:	5 (4.3% of all babies in report)
Intrapartum transports:	15 (12.8% of all births in report) (2 (1.7%) urgent)
Postpartum maternal transports:	2 (1.7% of all births in report) (none urgent)

Outcomes of Clients in Your Care for Labor/Birth	
Neonatal transports:	1 (0.9% of all babies in report) (1 (0.9%) urgent)
Shoulder dystocia:	1 (0.9% of all babies in report)
Thick or particulate meconium:	1 (0.9% of all births in report)
Blood loss over 500 ml:	15 (12.8%) vaginal, none cesarean
Blood loss over 1000 ml _____:	2 (1.7%) vaginal, none cesarean
Pre-eclampsia/eclampsia during pregnancy/labor:	none
Multiple births/twins:	none
Male/female babies:	60 (51.3%) / 53 (45.3%) (4 unspecified/ambiguous)
Average baby weight:	8.0 lbs/3617 g
Babies under 6 lbs/2722 g:	4 (3.4%)
Babies 6-9 lbs/2722-4082 g:	83 (70.9%)
Babies over 9 lbs/4082 g:	20 (17.1%)
Babies with no weight specified:	10
Breastfeeding as of last postpartum visit _____:	112 (95.7%)
<p>Note: The death-related statistics below do not include any births in which you transferred care before labor began. For details of these births, see the report on Clients Who Left Your Care During Pregnancy.</p>	
IUFDs occurring antepartum with labor/birth in your care:	0 confirmed, due to anomalies 0 confirmed, not due to anomalies 0 not yet reviewed
IUFDs occurring intrapartum with labor/birth in your care:	0 confirmed, due to anomalies 0 confirmed, not due to anomalies 0 not yet reviewed
IUFDs occurring at unknown point with labor/birth in your care:	0 confirmed, due to anomalies 0 confirmed, not due to anomalies
Infant deaths before 6 weeks postpartum:	0 confirmed, due to anomalies 0 confirmed, not due to anomalies 0 not yet reviewed
Maternal deaths before last postpartum visit/6 weeks postpartum:	0 confirmed, pregnancy-related 0 confirmed, not pregnancy-related 0 confirmed, unknown whether pregnancy-related 0 not yet reviewed

Web site and data forms ©2004-2015 Midwives Alliance Signed in as: Niamh Charles

--



Your Statistics

These statistics are based on your data forms currently in our system. (Some of these data forms may still be with the Data Review Team for review--your [Data Form Archive](#) shows the status of all your forms.) These aggregate statistics represent your births only (births for which you are listed as Midwife 1, 2, or 3 on the data form). If you are a member of a practice, sign in using your practice account to see statistics for the practice as a whole.

Statistics report on: outcomes of clients in your care for labor/birth

Filters			
Listed as:	all	midwife 1	midwife 2 midwife 3
Form Type:	all	web-entered	prospective
	retrospective		previous calendar year
			this calendar year so far
			custom date range
Birth Place:	Transport:	Birth Mode:	Parity:
all	all	all	all
Home	non-transport	vaginal	primips
Birth Center	transport	cesarean	multips
Hospital			
Other			

Web site and data forms ©2004-2015 Midwives Alliance Signed in as: Meredith Klein

Outcomes of Clients in Your Care for Labor/Birth	
Vaginal births with only abrasions/splits:	11 (7.0% of all births in report)
1st- or 2nd-degree tears:	70 (44.6% of all births in report)
3rd- or 4th-degree tears:	2 (1.3% of all births in report)
Episiotomies:	2 (1.3% of all births in report) (2 by midwife, 0 after transport)
Births using forceps/vacuum:	none
Caesarean births:	11 (7.0% of all babies in report)
Intrapartum transports:	21 (13.4% of all births in report) (3 (1.9%) urgent)
Postpartum maternal transports:	2 (1.3% of all births in report) (1 (0.6%) urgent)
Neonatal transports:	2 (1.3% of all babies in report) (1 (0.6%) urgent)
Shoulder dystocia:	2 (1.3% of all babies in report)
Thick or particulate meconium:	3 (1.9% of all births in report)
Blood loss over 500 ml:	31 (19.7%) vaginal, 2 (1.3%) cesarean
Blood loss over 1000 ml  :	7 (4.5%) vaginal, 1 (0.6%) cesarean
Pre-eclampsia/eclampsia during pregnancy/labor:	none
Multiple births/twins:	none
Male/female babies:	89 (56.7%) / 67 (42.7%) (1 unspecified/ambiguous)
Average baby weight:	8.2 lbs/3719 g
Babies under 6 lbs/2722 g:	4 (2.5%)
Babies 6-9 lbs/2722-4082 g:	119 (75.8%)
Babies over 9 lbs/4082 g:	30 (19.1%)
Babies with no weight specified:	4
Breastfeeding as of last postpartum visit  :	155 (98.7%)
Note: The death-related statistics below do not include any births in which you transferred care before labor began. For details of these births, see the report on Clients Who Left Your Care During Pregnancy.	
IUFDs occurring antepartum with labor/birth in your care:	0 confirmed, due to anomalies 0 confirmed, not due to anomalies 0 not yet reviewed
IUFDs occurring intrapartum with labor/birth in your care:	0 confirmed, due to anomalies 0 confirmed, not due to anomalies 0 not yet reviewed
IUFDs occurring at unknown point with labor/birth in your care:	0 confirmed, due to anomalies 0 confirmed, not due to anomalies
Infant deaths before 6 weeks postpartum:	0 confirmed, due to anomalies 0 confirmed, not due to anomalies 0 not yet reviewed
Maternal deaths before last postpartum visit/6 weeks postpartum:	0 confirmed, pregnancy-related 0 confirmed, not pregnancy-related 0 confirmed, unknown whether pregnancy-related 0 not yet reviewed

Your Statistics

These statistics are based on your data forms currently in our system. (Some of these data forms may still be with the Data Review Team for review--your [Data Form Archive](#) shows the status of all your forms.) These aggregate statistics represent your births only (births for which you are listed as Midwife 1, 2, or 3 on the data form). If you are a member of a practice, sign in using your practice account to see statistics for the practice as a whole.

Statistics report on: outcomes of clients in your care for labor/birth

Filters			
Listed as:	all	midwife 1	midwife 2
Form Type:	all	Date Range:	
	web-entered	all	
	prospective	previous calendar year	
	retrospective i	this calendar year so far	
		custom date range	
Birth Place:	Transport:	Birth Mode:	Parity:
all	all	all	all
Home	non-transport	vaginal	primips
Birth Center	transport	cesarean	multips
Hospital			
Other			

These statistics are based on completed and submitted births only.

Any fetal losses and deaths are reported as "not yet reviewed" if the Midwives Alliance Data Review Team has not yet completed review of those data forms; they are reported as "confirmed" if the review has been completed.

[Note on percentages](#)

[Note on multiple births](#)

[Note on forms in review](#)

[Data forms used in this report](#)

Outcomes of Clients in Your Care for Labor/Birth	
Births that match your search i :	157
Parity:	First-time mothers: 63 (40.1%) Multiparas: 94 (59.9%)
Average age at booking:	30
Mothers with a previous caesarean:	7 (4.5%)
Total induction attempts in your care:	17 (10.8% of all births in report)
Uses of drugs: 2	
Uses of non-drug methods: 16	
Total augmentation attempts i :	2 (1.3% of all births in report) (2004-2011 births only)
Uses of drugs: 0	
Uses of non-drug methods: 2	
Vaginal births:	146 (93.0% of all babies in report)
Homebirths (as planned):	61 (38.9% of all babies in report)
Waterbirths:	52
VBACs:	6 (3.8% of all births in report; 85.7% success rate)
Vaginal breech births (home or hospital):	none
Vaginal births over intact perineums:	64 (40.8% of all births in report)