



## MAWS' Fall Update 2011

WA state had 4 delegates at the [Home Birth Consensus Summit](#) that was held in Airlie, Virginia from October 19-22, including two licensed midwives, an OB, and a consumer advocate. Audrey Levine, MAWS President, Suzy Myers, Chair of the Midwifery Department at Bastyr University and MAWS Board member, Dr. Ali Lewis, Clinical Faculty member at the University of Washington, and Jo Anne Myers-Ciecko, Executive Director of MEAC, participated in this historic gathering that yielded [nine visionary common ground statements](#) about the future of maternity care in the U.S.

Our [Hospital Transfer Quality Improvement Project](#) is underway! The goal of the project is to facilitate communication between midwives and hospitals in order to improve care in the event of a transfer. In some parts of the state midwives and physicians have begun to meet and discuss implementation of the project to help ensure smoother transfers and enhance safety.

MAWS just finished developing a brochure for DSHS/Medicaid clients to be printed by the end of the year.

MAWS also just released a comprehensive document for new and aspiring midwives who wish to practice

in Washington state. This [Orientation Manual for LMs](#) was designed to help prospective and new midwives access resources, start their own practices and understand the laws that pertain to licensed midwifery in our state.

In October, we had another successful [Miles for Midwives](#) Walk/Run event which we co-sponsor with the WA state affiliate of the ACNM.

The MAWS [Indications for Consultation and Transfer of Care](#) document is up for review. Professional MAWS Members will be provided surveys to comment in 2012.

Melissa Cheney, PhD, CPM is scheduled to present at the [MAWS Fall conference](#) where we will discuss the new Oregon law requiring midwives to participate in data collection. MAWS members will discuss whether we'd like to have a similar motivation to participate in MANA Stats in our state. We will also hold a forum on VBAC and release our revised VBAC Guidelines.

We will hold our MAWS Spring Conference on Friday, May 4, 2012. The focus will be on Health Care Disparities and how midwives and doulas are and can be part of the solution to this problem. We plan to link it with International Day of the Midwife on May 5.

Stay up-to-date with MAWS' electronic newsletters – Visit the [MAWS website](#) to sign up or make sure we have your current email address.