



**OFFICE OF THE MAYOR  
CITY OF CHICAGO**

**RAHM EMANUEL  
MAYOR**

**PROCLAMATION**

WHEREAS, the health and safety of childbearing is of paramount importance in our society; and

WHEREAS, certified nurse-midwives have demonstrated their ability to provide high quality care to women and infants throughout pregnancy and labor; and

WHEREAS, certified nurse-midwives' commitment to personalized care, ongoing patient and family education and promotion of individual responsibility for health make them an invaluable part of the health care team; and

WHEREAS, nurse-midwifery care has a proven record in reducing infant mortality and morbidity; and

WHEREAS, this year, National Midwifery Week is celebrated during the week of October 7-13, 2012 and acknowledges the important and multifaceted roles midwives play in women's lives from assisting in birth to providing personalized well-woman health care; and

WHEREAS, the national organization, the American College of Nurse-Midwives, headquartered in Silver Spring, Maryland, is the official governing body for the nearly 12,000 certified nurse-midwives and certified midwives throughout the United States and the official sponsors of National Midwifery Week; and

WHEREAS, this national event is an opportunity for women nationwide to gather for education and celebration of the health care service provided by midwives; and

WHEREAS, midwives have been a vital and growing part of the advancement of women's health in Chicago, Illinois since 1972 providing care to women and their families for over 40 years and are collectively responsible for 7 percent of all births in Illinois:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RAHM EMANUEL, MAYOR OF THE CITY OF CHICAGO, do hereby proclaim October 7-13, 2012 to be NATIONAL MIDWIFERY WEEK IN CHICAGO and urge all Chicagoans to recognize the continued contributions of midwives to life, family and wellness.

Dated this 1<sup>st</sup> day of October, 2012.

Mayor