

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Contact: Carrie D. Bright, IOM, CAE**  
**Chief Executive Officer, American Midwifery Certification Board, Inc.**  
**410-694-9424**  
[cbright@amcbmidwife.org](mailto:cbright@amcbmidwife.org)  
[www.amcbmidwife.org](http://www.amcbmidwife.org)

## **American Midwifery Certification Board Announces New Members of Board of Directors**

COLUMBIA, MD - The American Midwifery Certification Board (AMCB) is pleased to announce the 2024 newly elected members of the AMCB Board of Directors.

**President-Elect: Bridget Howard, DNP, MSN, CNM, FACNM** has been a CNM since 2000. Dr. Howard has dedicated over 24 years of service to the American College of Nurse-Midwives (ACNM), and the A.C.N.M. Foundation, as well as attending AMCB Board Meetings for six years as an invited guest. Her service included promoting funding for awards and scholarships to aid students to complete their basic midwifery education and for midwives to further research in Doctoral studies propelling the profession forward. Dr. Howard chaired the ACNM Midwives of Color Committee for six years, the ACNM Friends of the Midwives of Color Committee Diversity & Ethnicity Caucus for four years, was the A.C.N.M. Foundation Board of Trustees Secretary for six years, and the ACNM Board of Directors Secretary for six years. She spent a three-year commitment formally addressing anti-racism within midwifery educational programs and practice, with formal workshops for midwifery educational programs and podium presentations nationally. Dr. Howard is an avid champion for advanced practice providers within the Department of Women's Health and throughout Penn Medicine. She lives in rural NJ and enjoys gardening and traveling.

**Treasurer (reappointment): Barbara Graves, CNM, MN, MPH, FACNM** has been a CNM since 1986. She has a long history of volunteering with AMCB, beginning as a founding member of the CMP Committee, then Treasurer, then President from 2007-2012. She returned as the Treasurer in 2019 and was recently re-elected for a consecutive term.

**Secretary: Elle Annalise Schnetzler, DM, CM, FACNM** has been a CM since 2015. She was the CAR Committee Chair January 2021 – December 2023 prior to filling the Secretary position January 1, 2024.

**CMP Committee Chair: Ron Fancher, CNM** has been a CNM since 2008 and a member of the CMP Committee from January 1, 2010 – December 31, 2015, January 1, 2017 –

December 31, 2017, January 1, 2020 – December 31, 2023, before taking over as the Chair January 1, 2024.

**Examination Committee Chair: Sarah McCullough, CNM, FNP-C** has been a CNM since 2011 and a member of the Examination Committee since January 1, 2017. She took over the position as Chair of the committee January 1, 2024.

**Credentials, Administration & Reporting (CAR) Committee Chair: Mary Barger, CNM, PhD, MPH, FACNM** has been a CNM since 1979. She was the CMP Committee Chair from January 1, 1995 – December 31, 1999, and again January 1, 2007 – December 31, 2012. She also acted as Chair of multiple Discipline Committees from 2018 – 2023. She took over as CAR Committee Chair in 2024.

**Professional Liaison: Suzanne Staebler, DNP, NNP-BC, FAANP, FAAN** currently works with the National Coalition for Infant Health as a policy advisor. Dr. Staebler has been a member of the LACE network for APRN Regulation since 2009, currently serving as the NP role representative on the LACE Steering Committee. She began her role as AMCB Professional Liaison January 1, 2024.

The AMCB is the national certifying body for Certified Nurse-Midwives (CNMs\*) and Certified Midwives (CMs\*). With over 14,000 active certificants, the mission of the organization is “To protect and serve the public by leading the certification standards in midwifery”. State licensure provides the legal basis for practice. Most states require AMCB certification for licensure, and most institutions require AMCB certification to grant practice privileges. The certification function is a critical aspect of professional quality assurance in midwifery.

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