Idaho Midwives Bill Draws National Attention
Idaho Legislators Invited to Learn about National Licensing Trends and Qualifications of Certified Professional Midwives

WHAT: Idahoans for Midwives and the Idaho Midwifery Council have invited Idaho Legislators to kick off their 2009 session at a breakfast presentation. Topics presented are national licensing trends of Certified Professional Midwives (CPMs) across the nation and the particular needs in Idaho to ensure access to Licensed Midwives in our State.

WHY: The presentation explores the U.S. maternity care crisis, which sits atop the two crumbling pillars of affordability and birth outcomes. Legislators will learn more about the recent “D” grade that Idaho received from the March of Dimes for pre-term birth rates as well as the significant savings Idaho could achieve through licensing midwives. Lawmakers will have the opportunity to look at states like Washington that have saved millions of dollars by integrating licensed midwives into the state maternity care system. In addition, the training and qualifications of these nationally certified professional midwives will be examined.

WHO: Ida Darragh, CPM, Director of Testing for the North American Registry of Midwives (NARM), and Big Push for Midwives Campaign Advisory Committee member, is scheduled to be in Idaho this weekend to address Idaho Legislators and join consumers in meetings with their Representatives and Senators.

WHERE: The Rose Room, 718 W. Idaho Street, Boise, Idaho

WHEN: 9 a.m. on Monday, January 12, 2009