

CASSAUNDR A JAH

PhD · CPM · LM · IBCLC

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PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Visionary nonprofit executive and nationally recognized midwifery leader with over two decades of experience spanning clinical practice, academic administration, accreditation, policy advocacy, and organizational leadership. Brings a distinctive combination of engineering rigor, doctoral research in social justice, and deep clinical expertise as a Certified Professional Midwife, Licensed Midwife, and International Board Certified Lactation Consultant. Proven record of advancing perinatal health equity, shaping federal and state legislation, and building coalitions across diverse stakeholders. Recognized for ethical leadership, data-informed strategy, and transforming complex systems through collaborative, equity-centered frameworks.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Executive Director

National Association of Certified Professional Midwives (NACPM)

September 2023 – Present

- Lead national nonprofit association representing Certified Professional Midwives across policy, workforce development, research, and member engagement.
- Spearheaded federal legislative advocacy; presented Senate briefing introducing the Midwives for MOMS and BABIES Act (May 2025).
- Directed production of the 2024 CPM Workforce and Compensation Report, State Policy Report, CPM Framework, and annual Impact Reports.
- Cultivated strategic relationships with hospital systems, complementary healthcare providers, and interprofessional coalitions.
- Represented NACPM at national conferences and government convenings, amplifying the role of CPMs in U.S. perinatal care.

Expert Witness

Private Consultant

2010 – Present

- Provide expert analysis on national and state CPM policies and case review of care and documentation for legal proceedings.

VP Institutional Development | Provost | Chief Development Officer

National College of Midwifery

2014 – 2023

- Directed strategic development, academic curriculum design, accreditation reporting, and program expansion across three senior roles.
- Led actualization of a social justice framework institution-wide; managed diverse team of online learning coordinators.
- Oversaw CRM and LMS development and implementation; advanced doctoral and midwifery research programs.

Staff Midwife

Embrace Midwifery Care & Birth Center

2020 – 2023

- Provided full-scope birth center midwifery services, lactation consultations, and parenting education in Richmond, VA.

Owner & Founder

Empowered Women, Empowered Births, LLC

2010 – 2017

- Built a six-figure homebirth midwifery practice in Albuquerque, NM; mentored and trained four new midwives.
- Offered student apprenticeships and lactation consultation services.

Intern · Resident

Casa de Nacimiento

2009 – 2011

- Primary care provider of midwifery and lactation services; delivered academic and clinical education to midwifery interns in El Paso, TX.

Structural Engineer

Various Aerospace Firms

2000 – 2007

- Structural engineering consultant on space-bound hardware using Nastran with FEMAP or Patran; research, testing, and design for space experiments.

EDUCATION

PhD · Midwifery Research <i>National College of Midwifery, Taos, NM</i> <i>Dissertation: Descriptive Case Study of Actualizing a Social Justice Framework Within a MEAC-Accredited Midwifery Institution</i>	2020
AS · Midwifery <i>National College of Midwifery, Taos, NM</i>	2010
MS · Aerospace Sciences <i>University of Colorado, Boulder</i>	2002
BS · Aerospace Engineering <i>Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, Prescott, AZ</i>	2000

CREDENTIALS & CERTIFICATIONS

- Certified Professional Midwife (CPM #10030038) · NARM, 2010 – Present
- Licensed Midwife (LM #10076R) · Texas 2017-2025, New Mexico & Virginia, 2010 – Present
- International Board Certified Lactation Consultant (IBCLC #11065708) · 2010 – Present
- Technology of Participation (ToP) Facilitator · Strategic Planning · Environmental Scanning
- Circle of Security Facilitator
- Advanced Life Support for Obstetrics (ALSO) · Neonatal Resuscitation Program (NRP) · IV Therapy · Adult & Infant CPR

GRANTS & DEVELOPMENT

\$1,345,000+ secured in grants since 2024

- **Skyline Foundation & Uplift Labs** *Think Big Initiative* | 2025, 2026
- **Skyline Foundation & Primary Maternity Care** *Step Up Together Initiative* | 2025, 2026
- **Skyline Foundation** *Operations Grant* | 2024, 2025, 2026
- **Pritzker Children's Initiative** *State Stewarding Grant* | 2025, 2026
- **Wagner Foundation** *Operations Grant* | 2025, 2026
- **Skyline Foundation (Staff Advised)** *Tanya Khemet Taiwo Scholarship* | 2024, 2025

AWARDS & RECOGNITION

Midwifery College of Utah *Kristi Ridd-Young Leadership for Impact Award* | 2025

PUBLICATIONS & REPORTS

Selected — National Association of Certified Professional Midwives

- Jah, Cassaundra, Colsen, Zev, & Findley, Ashli. Certified Professional Midwives 2024 Workforce and Compensation Report. NACPM, February 2026.
- Colsen, Zev, & Jah, Cassaundra. NACPM 2025 State Policy Report. NACPM, January 2026.
- Akin, J., Almanza, J., Carpitcher, A., Chase, S., Crowley, K., Jah, C., Kohl, A., Munroe, M., Ortiz, F. M., & Wilkie, M. (2025, October). *Workforce equity in maternal health: Tribal and Native community-led solutions*. American College of Nurse

Midwives, Association of Women's Health, Obstetric and Neonatal Nursing, & National Association of Certified Professional Midwives.

- Jah, Cassandra, Myers-Cieko, Jo Anne, & Piccirilli, Jessica. Certified Professional Midwives Framework. NACPM, October 2025.
- Relationship Building with Hospitals & Complementary Healthcare Providers. NACPM, October 2025.
- Jah, Cassandra, et al. Collaborative Agreements and Interprofessional Relationships. NACPM, June 3, 2025.

Books, Journal Articles & Chapters

- Jah, C. R. Many Paths, One Journey: Becoming a Certified Professional Midwife (1st ed.). Empowered Women Empowered Births LLC, 2013.
- Jah, C. R. Experienced Doula: Advanced Skills for Hospital Doulas (1st ed.). Xlibris, 2011.

PRESENTATIONS, PANELS & TESTIMONY

2025–2026

- June 2026 **United for midwifery: Advancing equity, access, and autonomy through partnership between the ACNM and NACPM Midwives** | Speaker | International Confederation of Midwives
- June 2026 **Triennial Council Meeting** | Delegate | International Confederation of Midwives
- April 2026 **The Air We Breathe: Panel Conversation** | Panelist | NEXUS Convening
- March 2026 **Certified Professional Midwives in Colorado: Education, Practice, and Regulation** | Co-Presenter | Statewide CPM Forum
- March 2026 **Workforce, Compensation and Practice Trends Among NARM-Examined Midwives** | Co-Presenter with Tigist Ejeta | National Black Midwives Alliance (NBMA) Annual Conference
- Jan 2026 **NACPM 2025 State Policy Report** | Author Presentation | NACPM Membership Briefing
- Sept 2025 **Birth Centers as Catalysts for Change: Strengthening the Midwifery Workforce, Expanding Access, and Building Power in Uncertain Times** | Co-Presenter with Kiki Jordan | American Association of Birth Centers (AABC) Annual Conference
- June 2025 **Integration of CPMs into the U.S. Perinatal Health Care System: A Health Policy Imperative** | Co-Presenter | National Policy Forum
- May 2025 **Senate Briefing: Introducing the Midwives for MOMS and BABIES Act** | Primary Presenter | United States Senate
- March 2025 **NACPM Federal Bill Advocacy** | Guest Lecturer | Bastyr University

2023 & Prior

- 2023 **Annual Conference Presentation** | Speaker | Midwives Association of Washington
- 2020 **Descriptive Case Study of Actualizing a Social Justice Framework Within a MEAC-Accredited Midwifery Institution** | Presenter | Doctoral Dissertation Defense
- 2017 **NMMA Practice Guidelines Updates** | Speaker | NM Midwives Association Spring Conference
- 2015 **Medicaid Payment for Home Birth: A Closer Look at the New Mexico Birthing Options Program** | Speaker | MANA Annual Conference
- 2015 **Out of Hospital Birth Transfers: Developing Systems to Increase Patient Safety** | Co-Presenter | UNM Women's Health Conference
- 2014 **Intro to Billing | GBS Updates** | Speaker | NM Midwives Association Spring Conference
- 2012 **Improving Relationships Between All Midwives** | Co-Presenter | NM Midwives Association Spring Conference
- 2007 **Birth on Maui** | Actress | Birth Play Conference, Hawaii

VOLUNTEER LEADERSHIP & SERVICE

VP Historical Knowledge | President | President-Elect | Treasurer | Board Member
Midwifery Education Accreditation Council (MEAC) 2015 – 2023

- Comprehensive experience with higher education accreditation processes and Department of Education recognition.

Licensed Midwife Member

New Mexico Licensed Midwifery Board

2012 – 2016

Founding Member

New Mexico Birth Justice Coalition

2014 – 2017

Co-Chair | Member

New Mexico Midwives Association

2010 – 2017

Board Member

National College of Midwifery

2012 – 2014

CONTINUING EDUCATION

Extensive training in racial equity, health disparities, cultural humility, community-based participatory research, and midwifery policy. Full continuing education record available upon request.