

**Beachside Birth Center  
Client Rights and Responsibilities**

The midwives and staff of the birth center believe that families and health care providers must work together to provide safe and satisfying care during labor and birth. The staff believes that both women and providers have rights and responsibilities to ensure satisfying outcome.

**CLIENT’S RIGHTS:** The client has the right to expect

1. Care that is consistent with clinical guidelines and professional standards
2. Respectful and dignified treatment
3. Treatment without discrimination based on race, ethnicity, religion, sexual preference, or source of payment
4. Informed consent for any medication or procedure including risks, benefits or alternative therapy available and the right to decline any medication or procedure
5. Willingness of providers and staff to encourage self-determination by client
6. Information regarding the name, qualifications and scope of practice of care providers
7. The contact information for the midwife 24 hours/day, 7 days/week
8. Emergency procedures to be implemented as necessary
9. Care of her baby in her presence with explanation of any assessment carried out
10. Assurance of complete, accurate and legible health records
11. Assurance that all personal and health information will be confidential and that she is in control of the release of any information
12. Information regarding her and her baby’s care and treatment following discharge
13. Information regarding the cost of care and any personal financial responsibility

**CLIENT’S RESPONSIBILITIES:** It is the responsibility of the client to

1. Provide complete and accurate information of her health history and life style behaviors to her care providers
2. Assuring that both partners are in agreement with birth center care
3. Learning about the physical and psychological aspects of birth through childbirth classes as needed
4. Arranging for support during labor, birth and the initial postpartum days
5. Making her preferences known through a ‘birth plan’
6. Meeting the financial commitment as agreed to
7. Arranging for appropriate infant care provider for follow-up within 48 hours of discharge and providing the contact information to her care provider
8. Providing constructive comments and feelings of satisfaction and/or dissatisfaction with care received

All of the listed rights and responsibilities assume a normal pregnancy, labor, birth and transition. Clients should realize that if complications arise there will be a need to trust the care provider they have chosen. If problems occur the woman or her partner/significant other will continue to be responsible for decision making related to her or the infant’s care.

We have read these rights and responsibilities and have had the opportunity to ask questions of the care provider. Following review we understand our rights and responsibilities and agree to fulfill our responsibilities.

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Patient’s Signature

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Date