On June 30th, we completed our 7th fiscal year. Our annual report features program highlights and statistics from the year. If you would like to see program outcomes for each calendar year, they can be found on our website: http://www.birthwellpartners.org/about-birthwell/program-outcomes/.

Our program continues to make a difference for families in central Alabama:

- Again this winter, we facilitated childbirth classes at JCCEO Early Head Start. These classes gave parents information about pregnancy, birth, breastfeeding and newborn care, with emphasis on health care decision making and self-advocacy.

- This fiscal year BirthWell Partners doulas supported 51 under-resourced families during the birth of their baby, primarily at Princeon (20) and Brookwood (12). In addition, outside of the immediate Birmingham area, doulas attended four births in Tuscaloosa and two in Anniston.

- The average length of gestation for our clients was 39.5 weeks (compared to JeffCo 2015 average of 38.3 weeks)

- The average birth weight of clients' babies was 7 lbs, 6 oz (compared to JeffCo 2015 average of 7 lbs)

- C-section rate for our clients was 21.3% (AL rate for 2016 = 34.4%)

- Epidural rate for BWP clients was 51.2% (National rate for 2016 = 73.5%)

- The Preterm Birth rate for our clients' babies was 7.8% (AL rate for 2016 = 11.98)

- Low Birth Weight rate for our clients' babies was 4.4% (AL rate for 2016 = 10.3%)

- 95% of clients' babies were breastfed (JeffCo 2015 rate=75.7% of babies were ever breastfed). Furthermore, 90% of our clients were still breastfeeding their babies when they left the hospital.

- Finally, 93% of our clients held their babies skin to skin in the first hours after birth.

Want to help us serve more under-resourced families?
Make a donation on our web site!

BirthWell Partners’ mission is to improve the health of low-resource mothers and infants in central Alabama by offering free and reduced-cost childbirth education, breastfeeding assistance, and non-medical labor support provided by birth doulas.
Doula Services:
The core of our program continues to be providing free and reduced cost doula services to those who can most benefit, but are least likely to afford doula services.

Our volunteer community doulas support their clients one-on-one during pregnancy, labor, birth and the early postpartum period. Prenatally, they help connect clients to area resources and support services. In labor, they offer encouraging words, help labor progress by suggesting position changes, make clients more comfortable by providing massage or counter-pressure during contractions, and more. They also encourage early skin-to-skin contact, assist with breastfeeding, and help mother and baby learn to respond to one another’s cues during the first hours and weeks after birth.

Clients report greater satisfaction with their birth experience, which impacts how they feel during the challenging early weeks and months of parenting. This positive start to mother-infant interactions can provide long lasting benefits to children’s emotional and physical development.

Training:
BirthWell Partners awarded 10 partial and full scholarships, and trained a total of 34 doulas this year at our Fall and Spring workshops. It has been amazing to be a part of growing and diversifying the doula community in Alabama. We are so excited because this means doula support is MORE accessible to families in our area, whether they have the financial means to hire a doula or not.

Annual Doula Retreat:
Doulas from across the state attend our annual doula retreat. This opportunity for continuing education and networking strengthens our broader doula community.

In September we hosted our fundraising event, the 2nd annual “Earthy Birthy Fair and Family Wellness Expo.” A variety of vendors were available to speak with families interested in products and services aimed at a more natural/holistic lifestyle. Key sponsors for the event included Shelby Pediatric Dentistry, Homewood Friends & Family Chiropractic, Villager Yoga, MommaLove Postpartum Services, and Market Table. We are so grateful to Annie Damsky and Meghan Ratliff for their hard work in coordinating this event!

Financial Statement of Activities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Revenue</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Contributions</td>
<td>$7,173</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grants</td>
<td>$20,610</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fundraisers/Events</td>
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<td>Fees for Service</td>
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<td><strong>Total Revenue</strong></td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program Costs</th>
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<tr>
<td>Doula Retreat</td>
<td>$976</td>
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<tr>
<td>Doula Services</td>
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<tr>
<td>Doula Training</td>
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<td><strong>Total Program Costs</strong></td>
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<th>Expenses</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Salaries and Payroll Tax</td>
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<td>Advertising &amp; Promotion</td>
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<tr>
<td>Banking Fees, Licenses &amp; Memberships</td>
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<td>Postage</td>
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<td>Travel and Meals</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Expenses</strong></td>
<td><strong>$36,511</strong></td>
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</table>

| Net Operating Revenue                | $9,473 |
Many Thanks to the Organizations and Individuals Who Helped Make Our Work Possible Last Year:

Adrian Ward
Alabama Waldorf School
Alabama Midwives Alliance
Alys Stephens Center
Amy Sanders
Ann Adger
Anna Hopper/Gypsy Leaf
Annie Damsky
Audrey Norman
Ayala Abrams
Babypalooza Magazine
Babycarrying International,
Birmingham Chapter
Barbara Brande
Beverly Brown
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Bill Pautler
Billy & Sally Ratliff Charitable Fund
Birmingham Birth Circle
Birmingham Born
Birmingham Therapeutic Services
BirthWise in Birmingham
Cahaba Physical Therapy
Deep Roots Apotheke
Caring Foundation of Blue Cross Blue Shield of Alabama
Carol Hunt
Christian Montgomery/DiNixi Doula
Clay Stiles Family Fund
The Crunchy Bean
Cynthia Galea
Danny Alpert
David Zinn
Dixie Fresh
Donald Rosenstiel
East Lake United Methodist Church
Eileen Kunzman
Elizabeth Salter
Embody Practice Center
Emily Davis
Erin Mannes
Frances Cade/Juice Plus
Gentle Childbirth Services
Greg Fuller
Highlands School
Homewood Friends Family Chiropractic
Homewood Market Table
Howard Bearman
Hugh Kaul Foundation
Independent Presbyterian Church
Janet Turan
Jeff & Dana Gale
Jennifer Boully
Jennifer Greer
Jill Copeland
Joan Leary
Joanna Deuser
Joanna Harrison/Beauty Counter

Joanne Niewood
Karen Abrams
Katherine Jones/Tinkergarten
Kathleen Johnson
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Levite Jewish Community Center
Linda Stone
Lisa & Allen Engel
Lydia Thurston
Lynette Mazer
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Malisa McClure
Marion Renneker
Martha Ivey/Alabama Oriental Medical Arts
Martha Williams/Seams That Bind
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Meghan Panico
Melodi Stone
Melvin Zivitz
Michelle & Seth Wolneck
Micky Rubenstein
Meghan Ratliff/Momma Love Postpartum Services
Mothers Milk Bank of Alabama
Natalie Short
Patty-Cakes
Peter & Elizabeth Glazer
Portraits Inc.
Precision Chiropractic
Rachel Schwartz
Reggie Bolton
Richelle Ash/Best You 4Ward
Rohit and Vaishali Patel
Rojo
Ronne and Donald Hess Foundation on behalf of Emily & Bob Levine
Santosha Foundation
Sara Ganton
Sara McGowan
Sharon & Michael Brown
Shelby Pediatric Dentistry
Sherri & Jimmy Krell
Simon Williamson Clinic OBGYN
Slice
Stanley Klinzak
Steffanie Sabbaj
Suzanne Baker
Sweet Kiss Fertility
Tina Simpson
Tracy White Wendland
Valerie & Geoffrey Gordon
Villager Yoga
William Ashworth
William Futch, Jr.
William and Faith Pautler Foundation
Yerby Therapy

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BBVA Compass Employee Giving
GoodShop

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