



## DASC Membership Form

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Birth Doula                       Postpartum Doula                       Affiliate Member (non-doula)

Business Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Primary Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Secondary Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Alternate Number: \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Web Site: \_\_\_\_\_ Birthday (day and month): \_\_\_\_\_

Certifying Organization:

DONA                       BirthWisdom                       ICEA  
 CAPPA                       BirthWorks                       Other: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Birthing from Within                       Childbirth International

Number of births attended as a primary birth doula: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of clients served as a primary postpartum doula: \_\_\_\_\_

What are your philosophies in your profession?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Do you offer clients any additional services? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

\*Would you like to participate in the DASC referral program?       Yes       No

**\*To participate in DASC's referral program, you must include a copy of your doula certificate or your dated enrollment letter from your certifying organization. Certificates of completion/attendance for workshops/trainings are not sufficient.**

Please indicate which volunteer opportunities interest you:

Book-wrapping Fundraiser                       Event Planning                       Banquet Committee  
 Other Fundraisers                       Outreach Programs                       Family Fest Committee

Do you have other skills you would like to volunteer to share with DASC? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

All doulas who wish to join DASC must sign the following two pages and return them with this form. Thank you, and welcome to DASC!



## **DASC's Code of Ethics**

### **I. Rules of Conduct**

- A. *Propriety.* The doula will maintain high standards of personal conduct in the capacity or identity as a doula.
- B. *Competence and Professional Development.* The doula will strive to become and remain proficient in the professional practice and the performance of professional functions through continuing education, affiliation with related organizations and association with other doulas.
- C. *Integrity.* The doula will act in accordance with the highest standards of professional integrity.

### **II. Ethical Responsibilities to Clients**

- A. *Primacy of Client's Interests.* The doula's primary responsibility is to her clients.
- B. *Rights and Prerogatives of Clients.* The doula will make every effort to foster maximum self- determination on the part of her clients.
- C. *Confidentiality and Privacy.* The doula will strive to respect the privacy of clients and hold in confidence all information obtained in the course of professional service.
- D. *Obligation to Serve.* The doula will assist each client seeking support either by providing services or by making appropriate referrals.
- E. *Reliability.* When the doula agrees to work with a particular client, her obligation is to do so reliably, without fail, for the term of the agreement. The agreement should clearly state any limitations on the doula's availability, and include clear back-up plans for such situations when the doula is unavailable.
- F. *Fees.* When setting fees, the doula should ensure that they are fair, reasonable, considerate, and commensurate with the service performed.

### **III. Ethical Responsibility to Colleagues**

- A. *Respect, Fairness, and Courtesy.* The doula will treat colleagues with respect, courtesy, fairness, and good faith.
- B. *Dealing with Colleagues' Clients.* The doula has the responsibility to relate to the clients of colleagues with the same ethical and professional consideration as with her own clients.

### **IV. Ethical Responsibility to the Doula Profession**

- A. *Maintaining the Integrity of the Profession.* The doula upholds and advances the values, ethics, knowledge and mission of the profession.
- B. *Community Service.* The doula will assist the profession in making labor and postpartum support services available to the general public.

### **V. Ethical Responsibilities to Society**

- A. *Promoting Maternal and Child Welfare.* The doula promotes the general health of women and their babies, and whenever possible, that of their families and friends as well.

I agree to adhere to DASC's Code of Ethics and Standards of Practice.

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Signature and Date



## **Standards of Practice**

### **I. Scope**

#### *A. Services Rendered*

1. The birth doula accompanies the woman in labor, provides emotional and physical support, suggests comfort measures, and provides support and suggestions for the partner. Whenever possible, the doula provides prenatal and postpartum emotional support, including explanation and discussion of practices and procedures as needed.

2. The postpartum doula provides in-home assistance, guidance and education with mother and baby care, infant feeding and family adjustment. She supports the mother emotionally and physically and may include household assistance.

*B. Limits to Practice.* The doula does not perform clinical or medical tasks such as taking blood pressure or temperature, fetal heart tone checks, vaginal examinations or postpartum clinical care. Doulas who are also health care professionals may provide these services within the scope and standards of their profession.

*C. Mediacy.* The doula mediates for the client's wishes as expressed in her birth plan, in prenatal conversations, and intrapartum discussion. She helps the mother incorporate changes in plans if and when the need arises and enhances communication between client and caregiver. Clients and doulas must recognize that the doula's role does not include speaking on behalf of or making decisions for the client. The doula's role is best described as support, information and mediation or negotiation.

*D. Referrals.* For clients needs beyond the scope of the doula's training, referrals are to be made to the appropriate resources.

### **II. Continuity of Care**

A. The doula should make back-up arrangements with another doula to ensure services to the client if the doula is sick or unable to be reached. Should any doula feel a need to discontinue service to an established client, it is the doula's responsibility to notify the client in writing and arrange for a replacement, if the client so desires. This may be accomplished by one or more of the following:

1. Introducing the client to the doula's back-up.
2. Suggesting that another member of DASC may be more appropriate for the situation.
3. Contacting a local representative of another doula organization.

B. The doula will follow up with the client or back-up doula to make sure the client's needs are being accommodated.

### **III. Training and Experience**

A. *Certification.* Doulas on the referral list will have current certification or be in the process of certification through a DASC-approved certification program such as DONA, CAPP, ALACE, NAPCS or ICEA.

B. *Continuing education.* A doula will participate in at least one continuing education event per year relevant to maternal/child health.

### **IV. Record Keeping**

A. *Documentation.* The doula maintains clear and accurate records of each client encounter and the birth.

I agree to adhere to DASC's Code of Ethics and Standards of Practice.

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Signature and Date