



Questions for Mom

Name: _____

Congratulations on choosing a homebirth! It is our intention to provide you and your family with sensitive, personal care throughout the childbearing year. Many women find that issues concerning family influences, past experiences, and present circumstances surface during the pregnancy, birth and the postpartum period. We believe that open communication and a warm and trusting midwife/client relationship are essential and therefore encourage you to give consideration in answering the following questions. The issues brought up in this form will be discussed in greater detail during your prenatal appointments. Feel free to add any further comments or questions you may have to the end of this form. All information shared is confidential.

1. Why do you want to have this baby at home? _____

2. What do you see as the duties and responsibilities of your midwives? _____

3. What do you feel your responsibilities are regarding the pregnancy or birth? _____

4. What is your present understanding of complications that may occur during pregnancy or birth? _____

5. Our society does not always view homebirth and independent midwifery as "wise" or "safe" choices. You may find that family, friends and strangers respond to your plans to have a homebirth with comments like "but that's dangerous" and "why are you putting yourself and your baby at risk?" How would you respond to comments like these? What support, tools, or resources do you need in order to counter these myths and fears? _____

6. Who will be with you during the birth? _____

7. Who will help you after the baby is born? _____

8. Do you have any special requests prenatally, during the birth, or postpartum? _____

9. What are your plans for breastfeeding? _____

10. How do you feel about going to the hospital if complications arise? _____

11. How do you handle emotional issues in your life? _____

12. Have you ever experienced any form of abuse (for example, domestic violence, rape, incest, emotional abuse)?

13. Do you feel safe in your home, relationship and workplace? _____

14. Please feel free to share anything else you would like in the space below.

15. If you feel comfortable sharing, please write a short story for each of your previous childbearing experiences (including miscarriages and terminations). Please let us know how you felt as well as what happened.

Thank you.