

Michele Nizza

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LICENSED MIDWIFE | HEALTHCARE EDUCATOR | CLINICAL INSTRUCTOR | CURRICULUM DEVELOPER

Healthcare Educator and Licensed Midwife with more than 25 years of experience delivering maternal health education, clinical instruction, curriculum development, and evidence-based training for families, healthcare professionals, nursing students, and aspiring birth workers. Recognized for expertise in midwifery education, adult learning, instructional design, student mentorship, and interdisciplinary collaboration. Proven success developing educational programs, authoring professional training curriculum, mentoring future healthcare providers, and advancing equitable, patient-centered maternal health practices. Combines extensive clinical experience with graduate-level studies in instructional science and technology to create engaging learning environments that support student achievement and professional development.

Professional Experience

MUM'S THE WORD

2001 – Present

Licensed & Certified Midwife | Educator | Mentor | Business Owner—Monterey, CA

- **Clinical Education:** Design and deliver childbirth education, breastfeeding, newborn care, postpartum, and labor preparation programs for expectant families utilizing evidence-based instructional methodologies.
- **Curriculum Development:** Created educational programs, training materials, learning resources, and professional development content supporting both consumers and healthcare professionals.
- **Student Mentorship:** Serve as preceptor and mentor for student midwives, childbirth educators, doulas, and emerging maternal health professionals, providing clinical guidance and professional development support.
- **Instructional Leadership:** Facilitate individual and group learning experiences that promote informed decision-making, patient advocacy, and evidence-based maternity care.
- **Healthcare Training:** Educate clients, students, and healthcare professionals regarding physiologic birth, lactation support, labor management, postpartum recovery, and maternal-infant health.
- **Community Engagement:** Present educational programs and participate in community outreach initiatives promoting equitable access to pregnancy, birth, and postpartum resources.
- **Content Development:** Create and manage educational, marketing, website, and social media content supporting public health education and community awareness initiatives.
- **Diversity & Inclusion Advocacy:** Promote culturally responsive, equitable, and accessible care models serving individuals and families from diverse backgrounds.

Teaching & Clinical Education Experience

HARTNELL COLLEGE NURSING PROGRAM

2021 – 2022, 2023

Clinical Out Rotation Instructor—Monterey, CA

- **Clinical Out Rotation Instructor:** Introduced second-semester nursing students to the Midwifery Model of Care through structured clinical observation and experiential learning opportunities.
- **Student Development:** Guided students through clinical experiences involving pregnancy, labor, birth, postpartum care, and patient-centered healthcare practices.
- **Healthcare Education:** Conducted chart reviews and case-based discussions to strengthen student understanding of maternal health assessment and care planning.
- **Interdisciplinary Learning:** Demonstrated distinctions between midwifery and medical care models while fostering collaborative healthcare perspectives.

LAMAZE INTERNATIONAL

2001 – 2019

Childbirth Educator & Instructor | Workshop Developer—Monterey, CA

- **Faculty Instruction:** Delivered Lamaze Childbirth Educator Seminars, preparing healthcare professionals and birth workers for childbirth educator certification.
- **Program Development:** Designed and taught "The Experienced Birth Professional," an ICEA-approved educational workshop supporting professional development within the birth community.

- **Professional Training:** Facilitated continuing education programs offering professional development credits through Lamaze International and the California Board of Registered Nursing.
- **Mentorship:** Supported educator development through coaching, guidance, and best-practice instruction for emerging childbirth educators.

CALIFORNIA MATERNAL QUALITY CARE COLLABORATIVE (CMQCC) 2015 – 2016

Contributor & Facilitator—Monterey, CA

- **Contributor:** Authored the Comfort Measures section of the *Toolkit to Support Vaginal Birth and Reduce Primary Cesareans* and Labor Support Workshops curriculum supporting statewide maternal health quality initiatives.
- **Professional Education:** Co-facilitated educational workshops throughout California for multidisciplinary healthcare teams focused on labor support strategies and reduction of primary cesarean births.
- **Evidence-Based Practice:** Advanced implementation of evidence-based labor support techniques within healthcare organizations.

LAMAZE INTERNATIONAL 2017 – 2018

Specialty Workshop Instructor—Monterey, CA

- **Healthcare Education:** Delivered specialized labor support and breastfeeding education programs for nurses, physicians, doulas, and allied healthcare professionals.
- **Continuing Education:** Facilitated skill development workshops supporting evidence-based maternal and newborn care practices.

MONTEREY INSTITUTE OF TOUCH 2003 – 2012

Massage Instructor & Editor—Carmel, CA

- **Classroom Instruction:** Taught prenatal massage curriculum and certification coursework within the institution's Certified Massage Practitioner program.
- **Curriculum Delivery:** Provided classroom-based instruction integrating anatomy, physiology, client care, and maternal wellness principles.
- **Educational Communications:** Edited newsletters, educational materials, and promotional content supporting institutional programs and student engagement.

Additional Career Experience

LAMAZE INTERNATIONAL

Board Director—Washington, D.C.

Collaborated with executive leadership and board members on organizational strategy, governance, policy development, budgeting, and member engagement initiatives. Supported programs advancing childbirth education standards and professional development opportunities nationwide.

EVAN-MOOR PUBLISHING

Freelance Copyeditor & Technology Editor—Monterey, CA

Edited educational publications, textbooks, instructional materials, and digital learning resources supporting K–12 education. Ensured accuracy, consistency, readability, and alignment with educational standards across print and digital products.

KELLY SERVICES/CTB-MCGRAW HILL

Freelance Content Editor—Monterey, CA

Selected standards-aligned assessment items and educational content supporting statewide educational initiatives. Partnered with editorial, production, project management, and design teams to ensure quality educational products.

PAUL KAGAN ASSOCIATES

Publications Manager | Managing Editor—Monterey, CA

Managed publication operations, including staff coordination, workflow management, production scheduling, and quality assurance processes. Oversaw publication development from editorial review through final production and release.

Earlier Career Experience Leadership, Professional Service & Speaking

- American Association of Birth Centers—Program/Conference Committee Co-Chair (current) | Membership Committee | Regional Board Representative
- Birth Network of Monterey County—Board Director
- California Maternal Quality Care Collaborative—Task Force Member
- Lamaze International—Board Director
- Monterey Jazz Festival—Patron Services Supervisor
- Conference Speaker—Lamaze International Conference Presentation: *Collaboration for Maximum Impact*
- Community Speaker—*Maternal health, childbirth, breastfeeding, postpartum wellness, and community health presentations throughout Monterey and Santa Cruz counties.*

Skills & Expertise

Midwifery Education | Clinical Instruction | Healthcare Training | Curriculum Development | Adult Learning | Student Mentorship | Instructional Design | Maternal & Infant Health | Evidence-Based Practice | Student Learning Outcomes | Educational Technology | Online Learning | Learning Management Systems | Diversity, Equity & Inclusion | Community Outreach | Program Development | Professional Development | Healthcare Simulation | Clinical Assessment | Public Speaking | Faculty Collaboration | Educational Content Development

Education

Master of Science, Instructional Science & Technology

California State University Monterey Bay

Associate of Science, Midwifery

Midwives College of Utah

Bachelor of Arts, English

California State University, Sacramento

Licenses & Certification

Licensed Midwife, State of California (LM621)
Certified Professional Midwife (CPM)
Lamaze Certified Childbirth Educator (LCCE)
Certified Birth Doula (DONA International)
Certified Lactation Educator Counselor (CLEC)
North American Registry of Midwives Preceptor
National College of Midwifery Preceptor
Midwives College of Utah Preceptor
CPR/BLS Certified
Neonatal Resuscitation Program (NRP)

Professional Development

Evidence-Based Birth Instructor Training
American Association of Birth Centers Faculty Training
Train-the-Trainer Certification
Perinatal Mental Health Training
Lactation Consultant Training (In Progress)
Google Project Management Specialization Coursework

Awards & Recognition

- Fellowship of the Academy of Certified Childbirth Educators (FACCE)
- Community Impact Award—Breastfeeding Advocacy
- U.S. Senate Certificate of Recognition
- U.S. Congressional Certificate of Special Recognition
- Favorite Doula (Winner and Finalist) and Midwife (Finalist) in Monterey County, Monterey Bay Parent Magazine

Professional Affiliations

- American Association of Birth Centers
- California Association of Licensed Midwives
- Birth Network of Monterey County
- Evidence-Based Birth
- DONA International
- Lamaze International

Languages

English—Native
Spanish—Basic Proficiency