



## News Release - February 15, 2021

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### VNA Announces New Services for Obstetric Patients

A recent study reported in The American Journal of Obstetrics and Gynecology shows that midwife attended hospital births in the United States are increasing despite the overall decrease in the total number of U.S. hospital births.

With this increased national demand in mind, in addition to direct patient requests, VNA Health Care is pleased to announce that one of their Obstetric and Gynecology Nurse Practitioners, Stephanie Waggoner WHNP-BC, CNM is now offering Midwifery services.

“I love working with women, and being able to see their prenatal care right through to the birth of their baby and beyond fills me with awe. There is nothing like welcoming a baby into the world and I just love the bond that I can build with my patients as I help them become a family – it is very special!” said Stephanie Waggoner WHNP-BC, CNM

VNA has also begun offering women who have had prior Caesarian births the opportunity to consider Trial of Labor after Caesarian (TOLAC) and Vaginal Birth after Caesarian (VBAC) if both the mother and her Obstetrician believe that she and her baby would be a good candidate for this.

“VNA strives to provide women with exceptional care during this extraordinary time in their lives and it is wonderful to be able to offer these new services,” said Fadel Azer MD, FACOG, Medical Director. “I know that a lot of women have expressed an interest in having these birth experiences and these services will further help VNA holistically meet our patient’s needs.”

VNA services for pregnant women begin with a free pregnancy test with benefits assistance and a full range of services for prenatal and postnatal care. VNA Health Care also offers free Doula services for first and second-time mothers who feel that they would benefit from having a birth coach to help guide them and has Family Case Managers available to serve women who need additional resources during this vulnerable time. Healthy Families, a home visitation program is also available to provide first time families with ongoing support as needed.

Free Prenatal and Parenting Classes are currently offered online and these classes provide new families with opportunities to learn about what to expect, ask questions and discuss their concerns and meet new people who may be experiencing many of the same fears and excitement as they are.

For more information about VNA Obstetric Care, Services and Classes visit: [vnahealth.com](http://vnahealth.com).

*VNA Health Care is the largest Federally Qualified Health Center in suburban Chicago and operates 16 clinics serving over 72,000 people a year. VNA is recognized by the Health Resources and Services Administration as a Health Center Quality Leader at the Gold level and ranks in the top 10% of health centers nationwide for overall patient outcomes. Outcome measures include prenatal care, adolescent weight screening and counseling, vascular disease treatment, blood pressure control, healthy birth weights, and asthma care. VNA’s combination of convenience (by appointment at this time), patient-centered technology and expert, cost-effective care delivered with respect and compassion have led to these results. VNA is accredited by The Joint Commission and certified as a Primary Care Medical Home for all sites. # # #*