

Additional Resources from NHeLP

The National Health Law Program has been tracking efforts at expanding Medicaid coverage for doula care nationally and creating and sharing out our own resources on our [Doula Medicaid Project](#) webpage, which has a chart [tracking current state doula Medicaid efforts](#), including states that have enacted legislation and are in the process of implementing Medicaid coverage for doula care. You can see our roundup of [Current State of Doula Medicaid Implementation Efforts](#), published in November 2022. As of early 2023, there are now more than half of states that are either actively providing Medicaid coverage for doula care, in the process of implementing such coverage, or taking some statewide action related or adjacent to Medicaid coverage for doula care.

In 2022 we published a blog post on [Doula Care Improves Health Outcomes, Reduces Racial Disparities and Cuts Cost](#) and another on [Medicaid Coverage for Doula Care Requires Sustainable and Equitable Reimbursement to be Successful](#).

In September 2022, in partnership with [National Partnership for Women & Families](#), [HealthConnect One](#), and [Tewa Women United](#), NHeLP published [Improving Our Maternity Care Now Through Doula Support](#).

In March 2022 we released our [California Doula Pilots Lessons Learned project](#), which collects a series of three publications, a panel discussion, and other resources around the implementation of ten doula pilot programs here in California focused on addressing racial health disparities, and in particular on providing free doula services to either Black pregnant and birthing people or Medicaid enrollees.

In May 2020 we published the results of a survey and series of focus groups of doulas across California. The survey and focus groups culminated in our publication of a report: [Building A Successful Program for Medi-Cal Coverage For Doula Care: Findings From A Survey of Doulas in California](#). We believe the findings and recommendations hold true for any state looking into Medicaid coverage for doula care. The report, as well as a series of fact sheets, timeline, and a [list of recommendations](#), can all be found at <https://healthlaw.org/resource/doulareport/>

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Additional Resources from Partners

In December 2022, [ASPE](#) (U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation) published [Doula Care and Maternal Health: An Evidence Review](#). Also in December 2022, by [Center for Health Care Strategies](#) published [Covering Doula Services Under Medicaid: Design and Implementation Considerations for Promoting Access and Health Equity](#).

In October 2022, [National Partnership for Women & Families](#) published [Our Communities Hold the Solutions”: The Importance of Full-Spectrum Doulas to Reproductive Health and Justice](#). In April 2022, the [Community Doula Research Steering Committee](#) at UC Berkeley published a series of [project learnings](#) including an [illustration](#), [research prioritization list](#), and [final report](#) on Partnering with Community Doulas to Improve Maternal and Infant Health Equity.

[Advancing Birth Justice: Community-Based Doula Models as a Standard of Care for Ending Racial Disparities](#), by Village Birth International, Ancient Song Doula Services, and Every Mother Counts, has critical information on community-based doula care, advancing racial equity, and sustainable reimbursement.

Very informative series in The Lily/Washington Post in 2020 on Medicaid coverage for doula care: [State of Doula Care series](#). The series included articles specifically on the challenges in [Oregon](#) and [Minnesota](#) and reasons for the very low uptake of the benefit in both states. Additional data points from the series are also available [here](#).