

SOLUTION SPOTLIGHT

BELOVED BIRTH 50 BY 50

Birth Center Equity is centering human dignity and reproductive justice as they make midwifery care more accessible across the country.

ORGANIZATION

**BIRTH CENTER
EQUITY**

LOCATION

NATIONWIDE

FOCUS AREA



**HEALTH &
WELLBEING**

THE CHALLENGE

Midwifery care can improve birth outcomes, enhance the patient experience, is cost effective, and reduce inequities.

Yet, in the United States, only 15 percent of families have access to this model of care.

41%

Midwifery care can avert 41% of maternal deaths, as well as 26% of stillbirths, and 39% of neonatal deaths.

THE SOLUTION

Beloved Birth 50 by 50 aspires to increase access to midwifery care for families across the country. Started by Birth Center Equity, whose co-founder Leseliey Welch is an Ascend Fellow, the national systems-change initiative reimagines birthing care by shifting a medical system that centers physicians and hospitals to a beloved birth environment that centers families and is anchored in the community.

The Beloved Birth movement's goal is for 50 percent of babies in the U.S. to come into the world with the care of midwives by 2050.

Six Levers for State Policy Change

- › **Finance Midwifery:** Make it a top public/private priority.
- › **Grow Birth Centers:** Expand facilities that center this model.
- › **Strengthen the Workforce:** Resource midwives as the backbone of care.
- › **Integrate Care:** Standardize midwifery across all birth settings.
- › **Advance Policy:** Pass regulations that support widespread access.
- › **Shift Culture:** Harness the power of culture, narrative, and story to grow demand for and access to midwifery.

