



Agreement for Private Doula Services

The following sets forth an agreement between Yvonne Bannister, aka Doula, Client _____ and Client's Partner _____.

I. Services the Doula Agrees to Provide:

As your Doula, I will accompany you, my Clients, in labor to help achieve a satisfying birth experience and help you give birth in the manner in which you desire. As my Clients you are aware that I have received education for my role as your Doula by attending workshops. I have also received additional training as a student midwife; however, you are aware that I am not there as a monitrice. I will draw on my knowledge and experience to provide emotional support and physical comfort. I will assist Clients in gaining the information needed to make informed decisions throughout your birth. You understand that I am self-employed and that I do not work for a hospital, birth site or other health care professional.

As your Doula, I would prefer to meet with Clients at least once before labor. Clients will fill out a Prenatal Questionnaire in order to understand Client's priorities, Client's own best ways of coping with pain and fatigue, Client's preferences regarding management options and the use of pain medications and to discuss any other concerns. Additionally during this meeting, we will discuss how we (Doula, Client, Client's Partner) might best work together. I will also assist my Clients in preparation for a birth plan, if requested.

I as your Doula agree to meet you in labor within two hours after receiving a call from Client requesting my presence. I will remain with Client throughout Client's labor and birth, providing comfort measures, reassurance and doing everything reasonably possible (except as noted in Paragraph II) to help Client achieve her birth desires. As a Doula and an International Board Certified Lactation Consultant I will help you initiate breastfeeding. I will remain with Clients for up to two hours after the birth unless Client is comfortable and ready for Doula to leave earlier. After the birth, I will be available for phone contact to answer questions. I would also like to get together with Clients 10 days following the birth to see how Client is doing, to review the birth and to get feedback from Client about Doula's role.

II. Services NOT Provided by the Doula:

Doula will not make decisions for Client. Doula will help client get the information necessary to make informed decisions. Doula will not speak to Hospital Staff (i.e. doctors, midwives, nurses, any hospital employee) on Client's behalf. Doula will discuss Client's concerns with Client and suggest options, but the Client or Client's partner will be responsible for speaking to the Hospital staff.

Doulas do not provide the following services: vaginal exams, listening to fetal heart tones and taking

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blood pressure.

III. Responsibilities of the Client:

Client agrees to inform her doctor or midwife that she has hired a Doula. Client also agrees to keep contact with Doula after each doctor or midwife's visit, keeping her well informed of Client's medical condition, including any test results, and so that Doula may answer any questions that Client may have. Client agrees to provide Doula with a copy of her birth plan. Client agrees to participate in childbirth classes independent of the hospital, birth center, doctor or midwife. She further agrees to call Doula at the onset of labor and at least one and one half hours before she would like Doula to arrive at her home or birth site.

IV. Failure of Doula to Provide Service

Doula will make every reasonable effort to provide the services described here. If I as your Doula fail to attend Client's birth due to Doula's fault, there will be no charge and Doula will refund the entire fee. If Doula fails to attend the Client's birth due to circumstances beyond their control (example: extremely rapid labor, restrictions by Hospital Staff, failure to call Doula, acts of God), Doula will retain the fee.

V. Fees

Client shall pay the Dola a flat fee of \$800 to provide the above-described services. A non-refundable deposit of \$200 will be paid during the initial visit and the balance is due by the 36th week of pregnancy. If the fee has not been paid in full, Doula is not obligated to be present at the birth. Should either party decide to terminate this Agreement before the birth, the deposit will be retained by the Doula, with the balance, if any, being returned to the Client. If, for any reason, Client delivers baby with no primary care provider in attendance and the assistance of the Doula, there will be a separate fee charged of \$200 to cover the additional services provided. This fee would be due at the time of the birth.

Agreed and accepted this _____ day of _____, 2005.

Client

Doula

Client's Partner

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