

# Bethany *Brown, RN, MSN, CNM, WHNP*

Having planned during her high school days to become a Certified Nurse Midwife, Brown was a dual enrollment student at Muskegon Community College while in high school and earned many scholarships for undergraduate nursing. Having completed graduate education as well, she is now dually certified by the American Midwifery Certification Board and the National Certification Corporation for Women's Health Nurse Practitioner.

In 2007, Bethany established an evidence based Nurse Midwifery practice at Muskegon Family Care. She has been instrumental in developing protocols, implementing simulation training activities for labor and delivery, and hiring and mentoring new midwives at Muskegon Family Care. Bethany sees a diverse group of patients and advocates for the health of all women and children. Between deliveries and seeing patients at MFC, she has serves in the community presenting reproductive health information to high school classes and volunteering at health events like the local annual Mammogram party. With a husband and three young children, she is a role model to nursing students and colleagues in West Michigan and throughout the state.



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## Beth's Story

Through a series of rare and unusual medical conditions I aquired myself in high school I was able to see who really made the most difference in my medical treatment and care. It wasn't the doctors that came in and out, or that I saw for a brief few minutes in the office, it was the nurses that held my hand, told me jokes, and explained the procedures to me in detail. It was the nurse practitioners that the specialists at the University of Michigan referred me to that took the time my office visit to thoroughly examine me, take my history and listen to my concern. It became apparent to me that I could make a difference in many lives by becoming a nurse. I had a chance to follow a nurse midwife around, and immediately knew this was my calling. Today, I work many hours and all hours. I see patients in the office, ER's, labor and delivery, and postpartum units. I teach undergraduate, graduate and medical students and believe that my students probably teach me more than I have ever taught them. I am in my doctorate program and never want to stop learning. The most gratifying aspect of my job is watching someone make positive life change because I have influence them in some way. I hope I can continue to inspire and influence people by just caring and offering that special "Nursing" touch!