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A “Notable Book” for Midwives!

Hesperian to be honored by the American College of Nurse-Midwives Annual Conference on May 27

In an era when women’s reproductive health falls increasingly under the dark clouds of profit-driven health care systems and conservative Federal and State governments, the Hesperian Foundation’s *A Book for Midwives: Care for pregnancy birth and women’s health* offers a timely ray of sunshine. First published in 1995 and translated into nine languages. A fully revised and updated edition of *A Book for Midwives* has just been released, sure to be of interest to women, mothers and midwives.

On May 27, 2006, *A Book for Midwives* will be honored as an American College of Nurse-Midwives “Notable Book of 2006” at the ACNM’s annual meeting in Salt Lake City, Utah. Fiona Thomson, one of the authors, will be on hand to receive the award. “I am extremely happy with this recognition of our book,” said Thomson. “I hope this award will raise the profile of this book and help improve health for women all over the world.”

What makes *A Book for Midwives*—and other Hesperian publications—so unique is their combination of clear, direct, easy-to-understand language and emphasis on community empowerment. The books are lavishly illustrated with step-by-step explanations of medical procedures and practical suggestions, as well as information about how women can take control of their own health care and deal with the sexism, poverty and stigma that exacerbates women’s health around the world.

A Book for Midwives covers a host of topics that includes staying healthy during pregnancy, birthing, preventing infections, HIV/AIDS and pregnancy, health needs of young babies, IUDs, pelvic exams, manual vacuum aspiration, community involvement in the health of women and mothers, and much, much more. Both the revised and original versions were collaborations between women’s health care specialists, community activists and midwives from over a dozen different countries around the world. Such exhaustive review and input is one important reason why Hesperian Foundation books are so popular: They are designed by and for the people who use the books.

“The Hesperian Foundation has again created a clearly written and culturally sensitive book which can be used by healthcare providers throughout the world who care for women and their babies and families,” says Kathy Herschderfer, secretary general International Confederation of Midwives. “[It is] an excellent resource providing accurate technical information.”

A Book for Midwives: Care for pregnancy birth and women’s health by Susan Klein, Suellen Miller and Fiona Thomson can be viewed and downloaded in its entirety on Hesperian’s website at: http://www.hesperian.org/publications_download.php#midwives

The book can also be purchased for \$25 plus shipping at:

http://www.hesperian.org/mm5/merchant.mvc?Screen=PROD&Product_Code=B090R or by calling 1-888-729-1796 (within the US).