



# Scope of Practice

Hatch Doulas work within a set of standards so that clients receive consistent, quality care and so that Hatch as an organization upholds this quality of care in the greater community.

## 1. Hatch doulas are committed and reliable.

- ★ Show up to client visits prepared and on-time.
- ★ Stay in touch with clients through pregnancy with in-person visits and by phone/email.
- ★ Be available by phone when you are on-call for your client 24/7 from 37 weeks of pregnancy onward.
- ★ Arrange secondary doula (back-up) support and communicate about other school/work/family obligations.

## 2. Hatch doulas provide emotional, informational, and practical support to families through pregnancy, birth, and early parenting.

- ★ Encourage the use of comfort measures: breathing, relaxation, movement, positioning.
- ★ Offer information and explanation of events during labor.
- ★ Continuously support and reassure the birthing parent.
- ★ Encourage the birthing parent to communicate their needs and desires to care providers.
- ★ Assist partner and family in supporting the laboring parent.
- ★ Provide assistance to parents after birth that helps with postpartum and early parenting.

## 3. Hatch Doulas respect the client.

- ★ **Do not** discourage the client from their choices.
- ★ Help clients get the information they need to make informed decisions.
- ★ **Do not** make decisions for or speak for a client.
- ★ Provide appropriate and respectful services to families of all religions, races, abilities, gender identities, and sexual orientations.

## 4. Hatch Doulas respect their role in the hospital and as non-medical support persons.

- ★ **Do not** perform any medical tasks such as fetal heart monitoring, vaginal exams, or perineal support.
- ★ Doulas **DO NOT** deliver babies.
- ★ Prioritize aiding in an amicable relationship between hospital staff, doula, and family.
- ★ **Do not** 'prescribe' treatment or 'diagnose' conditions.
- ★ Always advise a client to check with their primary care provider with any questions or concerns.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_