



Guidelines for 2010-2011

Mission:

- I. FAM will launch a new grant-making fund called the Birth Trust. This Trust will be made of hundreds of donations made by our Trustees, who contribute a minimum of \$33 per month for one year. FAM will present these trustees with a grant docket, and they will vote on who receives funding each year.
- II. The Birth Trust
 - a. The Goal of the Birth Trust is to find at least 250 Trustees per year in order to grant \$100,000 annually.
 - b. Ninety-five percent of all Trustee contributions will be designated to the granting fund, while five percent will count towards running the fund.
 - c. The funds will be directed to grants voted on by Trustees.
 - i. The Docket will list a minimum 8 grant applications from individuals and organizations that focus on various areas of FAM's mission: public education, public policy, research, and increasing access of midwifery to underserved and vulnerable populations.
 - ii. Applications will be grouped by the four different areas of focus. Trustees will vote on which applications should receive funding. The docket and its voting emphasis may vary from year to year.
 - d. A fixed percentage of the Birth Trust will be earmarked for MANA's multi-year projects that undergo the FAM application process and are approved. FAM is committing to continue support of the MANA stats project and the Mothers Naturally website, for example.
- III. Trustees
 - a. Trustees are those who contribute a minimum of \$396 per year, in one single donation or with monthly donations of \$33 for 12 months. Trustees may also raise \$396 annually for FAM from other people.

- b. Each Trustee receives only one vote, regardless of contribution given.
 - c. In order to vote, Trustees must have registered their credit card for 12 monthly donations by April 1, one month prior to the voting cycle.
 - d. Only individuals can be trustees, not organizations or companies.
- IV. An Advisory Circle of leading thinkers in each area of funding will advise the FAM board at the beginning of each grant cycle regarding their views on what projects are critical for the movement.
- V. Grant Making
- a. FAM grants money to individuals and nonprofit organizations. FAM does not offer scholarships for midwifery students or funding for film production.
 - i. Applicants complete a letter of intent by February 1st.
 - ii. Based on these letters of intent, the board will invite organizations by March 1st to submit a complete application by March 30th.
 - b. The FAM Board will evaluate the applications in consultation with the Advisory Circle will identify the strongest proposals for the docket ballot to present to Birth Trustees.
 - i. A vote is held online from May 1st until May 15th.
 - ii. FAM announces the grantees and amounts by June 1st.

As this ambitious new program is launched, we ask that you appreciate our efforts to create the most transparent, impactful, and inclusive program and look kindly upon us as we determine the best practice to administer the Birth Trust.