

Midwives generally go through the whole birth with a woman. They are there to sit through the labor. Usually they work in tandems, or they work with a birth assistant or apprentice midwife. These women will take turns sitting with your partner through the long night. They insure someone is there all the time.

Their main goal is to support your partner emotionally, and to hold her and comfort her during the labor process. They wipe up the fluids that drip and give your partner back rubs and suggest to her when she should try something new. The point is that the anguish and trial of labor is to be gone through together.

Midwife means with woman. Women who take on a midwife take on a wholly different style of care. The women who work as midwives see a completely different type of childbirth than what is going on in the hospitals. The individual woman and her partner are much more free to express birth as they feel. They are able to touch, caress, and do what they want.