

Voices OF HOPE

Canada, Mexico and Peru

Indigenous peoples in the Americas have midwifery and birthing customs which stem from traditions, knowledge and practices that have been passed from generation to generation. Traditional Indigenous midwifery is a fundamental part of healthcare in Indigenous communities in Canada and Latin America, but there is inadequate recognition of Indigenous midwifery by government health authorities. PWRDF works with partners CHIRAPAQ in Peru and KINAL in Mexico to implement Indigenous midwifery programs.

Midwives often struggle against discrimination and the undervaluing of their knowledge and contributions to the wellbeing of Indigenous women. Yet, when COVID-19 began to spread globally, midwives saw an increased demand for care as many people had concerns about COVID-19 infection in hospitals. Many midwives also stepped up to care for people suffering from COVID-19 due to insufficient health services in some regions.

PWRDF praises the work accomplished by Indigenous midwives in Canada and Latin America.




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