



Abide Women's Health Services Core Values

Abide Women's Health Services (AWHS) upholds these core values in our work and promote them in all health care sectors. They represent what we believe in, what we stand for, who we choose to partner with, and how we approach everything we do.

- We believe that **human beings are image bearers**, endowed with God's image in them, and because of that, all human beings matter, regardless of their ability, age, gender, race, socio-economic status, or religion. **Human beings have worth**, given and determined by God, simply because they *are*. The belief in the worth of human beings leads us to believe that **steps should be taken to lead to human flourishing wherever necessary**. Generations have had selfish goals, instead of loving justice and seeking the peace and life of our neighbor, leading to the disparities we see in health care and in every other arena in our nation.
- We believe **human flourishing will occur through reparation, redemptive justice, and racial conciliation resulting in equity** and new, inventive systems where families have access to kind, compassionate, culturally congruent care with informed consent, whenever they have need, regardless of their ability to pay.
- **Reparation** is the process of making amends where wrong has been done. **The worth inherent in human beings tells us that reparation is worthwhile and necessary**. If we consistently uphold our belief in human worth, reparation will always be a priority. Righting wrongs and conflict between each other is the first step. AWHS also believes that racism and resulting systems of inequality, poverty, objectification and experimentation of people of color require reparation on a systemic scale. AWHS seeks reparation of systems, particularly in regards to women's health, for all people to flourish.
- We believe in **redemptive justice which is justice that has its ends in reconciliation, peace, and flourishing** for all parties based on Christ's sacrifice as its model of self-giving love of neighbor. This understanding of justice differs from the view which says that justice is the overthrowing of all powers or the leveling of all positions. Rather, it acknowledges that power can be used for good or evil. Just as the Roman authorities used their powers to crucify Christ, Christ instead used His power to heal, teach, and lead. Redemptive Justice challenges corrupt use of power and calls all people to use the power God has given them for good. **Redemptive Justice** is the



cornerstone of our organization and **is what love looks like when it's facing the problems our neighbors are dealing with.** We believe that redemptive justice is the primary reflection of our love as an outpouring of our grasp of God's grace towards us because justice desires to restore human flourishing, where it was not present before.

- We believe **racial conciliation** is vital to human flourishing because our race and heritage impact who we are and how we relate to others. In order to pursue reparation and justice, we must consider our own racial experience, and that of others, how they differ, and how we can love and serve one another through those joys and challenges. We believe **the ease of likeness will always pull on us over the beauty of diversity** and our systems will take steps to pursue diversity and racial conciliation even when it is not easy.
- **Equity** is the quality of being fair or impartial and is the goal of seeking reparation, justice, and racial conciliation. Without equity, some human beings are valued more highly than others, often based on skin color, ability, or gender. We believe that where race leads to loss of life or lack of human flourishing, there is hostility, not equity, and it must be corrected. AWHHS seeks to bring equity to women's health care and midwifery so that access to health care and education is available for all who need or desire it.
- We believe in the **active process of identifying and eliminating** racism by **changing systems**, organizational structures, policies and practices and attitudes, so that **power is redistributed** and **shared equitably**. This is **anti-racism**.
- We believe in **new, inventive systems** to uphold these values and are determined to change and adjust our systems if necessary.
- We believe **these things are a posture of heart** and occur in individuals and can then be applied to organizations and institutions. Abide Women's Health Services is made up of individuals who desire to live out these core values, apply it to their work, and see families flourish across our city, state, and nation.