# Speakers for the Physical, Spiritual, & Emotional Health of Families

We are a collaboration of professional speakers who focus on the unique needs of developing families. We range from lactation specialists to equity experts to healthcare advocates. We invite you to explore our websites and social media to see how we can enhance your next conference, podcast, or speaking event.



Brandon Kelley Community Enhancing Mindset



Cara Glen Truth, Purpose, Courage



Christy Jo Hendricks
Charismatic, Inspiring,
Motivational



Felisha Floyd Inspring Equitable Solutions



Fiona Lang-Sharpe Compassionate, Dynamic, Connected



Jen Kamel VBAC Access Advocate



Jen McLellan Plus Size Advocacy



Jenny DeDecker Educate, Empower, Lead



Julie Brill Holistic Evidence-Based Approach



Kimberly Bepler Compassionate Postpartum Business



Laurel Wilson Science Behind Breastfeeding



Paulina Erices Equity, Family, Leadership



Tammy Ryan
Experienced,
Knowledgeable, Insightful



**Brandon Kelley** 

- You are a Perfect Machine
- Human Body Drivers Ed
- Super Hero Mindset

Brandon Kelley is an Author, Motivational Speaker, Fitness Coach and Personal Trainer of a very specific pedigree. His job goes far beyond physical fitness. You are a Perfect Machine and he is on a mission to remind the human race of this fact so we may freely tune and adjust ourselves with authority. Brandon has designed various classes which he has taught to school students and adults in both Australia and America. Mr. Kelley is committed to ensure everyone on this planet is aware they have the ability to transform themselves and their environment into anything they want. The time of ignorance, nonacceptance, and misunderstanding of how powerful and amazing the human species is has ended.

Digital Business Card: apps.visnesscard.com/kzpyvp74a0oy

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Cara Glen

# Top Talks

- Finding Your Truth
- Overcoming Fears
- Voicing Your Vision

Cara Glen has a mission to remind all humans they have a powerful tool that serves as an inner guidance system. This tool is called their 'Truth'. Growing up in regional Australia, Cara was the first in her family to graduate both high school and college. After college Cara traveled alone across the world to live, teach, and absorb the culture and community of multiple countries. Through doing this she has developed a unique perspective on life and honed the ability to 'Follow Her Truth' through every situation.

Cara has spoken to thousands of teenagers and adults, educators and students, entrepreneurs and business owners from around the world. Through her time as a school teacher, international trainer, and business owner, Cara has found the happiest people across the globe have a profound commonality regardless of age, sex, religion, or occupation. They are all following their Truth every day.

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Christy Jo Hendricks

- Simplifying Birth and Breastfeeding through Effective Communication
- A Formula for Deception
- The World is Our Audience (broadening our reach in lactation education)

Christy Jo Hendricks, IBCLC, RLC, CCCE, CLE, CD(DONA) is an international speaker and author. She has made a career of teaching lactation in ways that simplify learning. She has been awarded the US Presidential Volunteer Award, the Phyllis Klaus Founder's Award for her contribution to the Mother/Baby bond and the Above and Beyond Award for innovative projects that exemplify the mission of Public Health. She has also been named Lactation Educator Faculty of the Year from CAPPA and has earned their Visionary Award. Christy Jo created the Grow Our Own Lactation Consultant/IBCLC Prep Course which has been used to train hundreds of students to become Lactation Consultants. She resides with her family in California where she continues to serve her community as a Lactation Consultant, Health Educator for the Department of Public Health, and faculty for the CAPPA CLE© and Childbirth Educator Programs.

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Felisha Floyd

# Top Talks

- Breastfeeding Military Families: An Invisible Underserved Population
- Food For Thought: How Centering Racial Equity Fuels First Food Justice
- Busy as a Bee: Prioritizing Inpatient Lactation Acuity

Felisha Floyd, author, speaker, trainer, and consultant, is an award winning hospital-based IBCLC celebrated for her work in the health/racial equity and food justice fields. She is the owner of Beyond Breastfeeding and the founder of Our Brown Baby. She serves as the President of the National Association of Professional and Peer Lactation Supporters of Color (NAPPLSC) and is an active member of the CSI/Race Forward First Food Racial Equity Cohort. Her career as a peer counselor and breastfeeding coordinator for WIC led to her work as a consultant with Boston Medical College's notable program, Communities and Hospitals Advancing Maternity Practices program (CHAMPS). She still consults for WIC within the WIC Loving Support Program. She is well known as the social media guru who founded Blactavist, an online breastfeeding cultural support group with a continually growing audience of more than 40,000. Felisha's passion for advocacy fuels her desire to serve in multiple roles such as the advisor/group member of the World Breastfeeding Trends Initiative (WBTI), the Education Director for Mom2Mom Global, the Immediate Past Advocacy Chair for Florida State Breastfeeding Coalition, and the Board of Directors for United States Breastfeeding Committee. Her championing of families is additionally informed by her important roles as an Air Force active duty military spouse and proud mom of three breastfed children.

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Fiona Lang-Sharpe

- In Danger and Darkness, Supporting Breastfeeding Families In Crisis
- The Power, Impact and Misconceptions Behind Peer To Peer Support
- Right Here Right Now, Managing Postbirth Interventions With Holistic Care To Improve Breastfeeding Outcomes

Fiona Lang-Sharpe NAMCW IBCLC, RLC, CLD, CLE® has over 25 years working with families in the perinatal field attending births, supporting families postpartum, and offering lactation care as an IBCLC. She studied in the UK under the National Association of Maternal & Child Welfare at Chichester University. Fiona then moved to Canada, and went on to, speak, teach and study internationally. Her extensive experience in perinatal health along with her interest in technology, social media and passion for quality education makes her an excellent fit working with families locally, nationally and Internationally and is the Communications Director for GOLD Learning Online Education. Fiona has a private practice which provides Childbirth Education, Doula & Lactation Support, mentoring new doulas and as a Faulty of CAPPA, which provides trainings for Labour Doula & Lactation Educator CLE®. She advocates and volunteers her time working with Safely Fed Canada and served on the Canadian Lactation Consultant Association as President from 2013 –2017.

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Jen Kamel

### Top Talks

- The Truth About VBAC
- The Politics and Public Health Pitfalls of Hospital VBAC Bans
- 6 Ways to Help Your VBAC Client Avoid the Bait and Switch

Jen Kamel helps birth professionals, and parents, achieve clarity on vaginal birth after cesarean (VBAC) through her educational courses, training programs, and consulting services. As a nationally recognized consumer advocate and Founder of VBAC Facts®, her mission is to increase VBAC access through education, legislation, and activism. As a California Board of Registered Nursing Continuing Education Provider, she speaks at national and regional events throughout the country. She testifies in front of the California Medical Board and legislative committees and works with organizations focusing on midwifery legislation and regulations that threaten VBAC access. She presents Grand Rounds at hospitals educating staff on the latest VBAC evidence and serves as an expert witness in legal proceedings. She envisions a time when every person pregnant after a cesarean has access to unbiased information, respectful providers, and community support, so they can plan the birth of their choosing in the setting they desire.

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Jen McLellan

- Supporting Plus Size Birth
- Obesity and Pregnancy: Time to Change the Conversation
- Body Love For Mom

Jen McLellan is a published author and founder of Plus Size Birth and the Plus Mommy blog. Plus Size Birth promotes evidence-based information and positive resources to empower healthy decision making for plus size people who are either trying to conceive or currently pregnant. Jen has grown a community of over 170,000 via the Plus Mommy Facebook page. Her work has been featured in major publications such as Yahoo Shine, Huffington Post, Everyday Feminism, and International Doula. She authored My Plus Size Pregnancy Guide and co-wrote the Amazon bestseller, The Peachie Moms Guide to Body Love for Moms. Jen is also a certified childbirth educator, consumer advocate, professional speaker, wife, and mother to a charismatic son.

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Jenny DeDecker

### Top Talks

- Mindfulness: Empowering Breastfeeding Families
- Changing the Climate of Birth: Doulas as Servant Leaders
- Breathing Through Birth: A Yogic Approach to Childbirth

Jenny DeDecker, LMT, NCBTMB, CD(DONA), CLC is owner of Full Moon Rising, a wellness studio in Norway, MI. Jenny has degrees in Human Biology, Anthropology and Religious Studies and is currently working towards a MS and PhD in Mind-Body Medicine at Saybrook University. Jenny's admiration of the human body as a massage therapist dovetails with her passion for breastfeeding and natural birth in her work as a Certified Lactation Counselor and Certified Birth Doula, striving to promote, protect, and support breastfeeding and women's empowerment. She is the chair and co-founder of the Upper Peninsula of Michigan Lactation Coalition, as well as founder of the Full Moon Doulas. Jenny has been practicing meditation and yoga for over 20 years and teaching classes and workshops for nearly a decade. Jenny and husband, Phil, reside on a chain of lakes in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan with their two children.

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Julie Brill

- Building on What Came Before: How Birth Impacts Breastfeeding
- Supporting Natural Childbirth in the Hospital Setting: Improving Birth and Lactation Outcomes
- Your Long-Term Career as a Perinatal Professional: Preventing Burnout and the Practice of Self-Care

Julie Brill, IBCLC, CCCE, CLD has been teaching childbirth, breastfeeding, and infant care classes since 1992, and training childbirth educators and doulas as a member of the CAPPA Faculty since 2003. She is honored to have taught thousands of childbirth education students in a variety of settings and hundreds of birth professionals. Julie loves working with birthing families and specializes in natural, home birth, and VBAC childbirth classes.

Julie is also an International Board Certified Lactation Consultant in private practice in Bedford, Massachusetts and the author of the doula anthology Round the Circle: Doulas Share Their Experiences. She is certified to present Peggy Huddleston's Prepare for Cesarean Birth, Heal Faster workshops and is a Certified Holistic Lactation Consultant. She graduated from Tufts University with a degree in Sociology and Women's Studies and completed the Massachusetts Midwifery Alliance Apprenticeship Course. Julie is the mother of two young adult daughters.

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Kimberly Bepler

# Top Talks

- Show Me The Money; How To Make Clients Magically Appear!
- Twins or More; Supporting the Special Needs of Families Having Multiples
- Nudity, Isolation, and Secret Codes: Navigating Family Relationships with a New Baby

Kimberly Bepler, IBCLC, CPD, CNPE, CLE® has been serving families professionally since 2001, and teaching expectant couples and new doulas since 2004. She began as a postpartum doula, added breastfeeding and new parent educator certifications, and became an IBCLC in 2011. She owns ABC Doula Service in Portland, OR, a thriving postpartum doula business that has served over 2000 families, including over 700 families with twins. Teaching for 15 years within two hospital systems, Kimberly used that experience to build CAPPA's New Parent Educator program to help equip other educators for the needs of the modern family. Kimberly's dynamic speaking skills range from topics surrounding families as they transition after baby and adjusting to multiples, to marketing and networking for the birth professional and teaching classes that favor facilitation over lecture. Her passion lies in equipping educators, doulas, and new parents, both for competence and confidence.

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Laurel Wilson

- The Science of the MotherBaby Bond: Epigenetics and the Microbiome
- Up in Smoke: The Potential Impact of Cannabis Use During Perinatal Period
- Hold the Phone: Diet Does Impact Breastmilk

Laurel Wilson, IBCLC, RLC, CLE, CLD, CCCE, CPPI, CPBI is an international speaker, perinatal expert, and author. She owns MotherJourney, training perinatal professionals on integrative and holistic information in perinatal period. Wilson is the co-author of two books, The Attachment Pregnancy and The Greatest Pregnancy Ever and contributing author to Round the Circle. She loves to blend today's recent scientific findings with the mind/body/spirit wisdom. Laurel serves on the board with the United States Breastfeeding Committee, as Senior Advisor for CAPPA, and on the review board for InJoy Health. She specializes in human milk and the epigenome/microbiome, cannabis and the perinatal period, and the science of attachment. Laurel has two wonderful grown sons, whose difficult births led her on a path towards helping emerging families create positive experiences. She believes that the journey into motherhood is a life-changing rite of passage that should be deeply honored and celebrated.

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Paulina Erices

### Top Talks

- From the NICU to Home: Parents Experiences
- Lactancia Latina, The Power And Strength Of My Community
- Leadership In Lactation, Make Extraordinary Things Happen

Paulina Erices is the mother of three children, a bilingual Lactation Consultant (IBCLC) in private practice, and a Maternal Child Health Specialist for the Jefferson County Health Department in Colorado. She is originally from Chile and has lived in the US for almost 15 years. She holds a BS in Psychology from Penn State and is currently completing her MS in Leadership and Organizations from the University of Denver. She has been a La Leche League Leader for 12 years where she has held different mother and Leader support roles across the US. She is a member of several groups working to improve child health and well-being, including the Early Childhood Colorado Partnership, the NICU Consortium, and the Community Leaders in Health Equity. Paulina's goal is to elevate and empower the voices of the community to effectively improve systems of care. Paulina lives with her family in Littleton, Colorado.

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Tammy Ryan

- Spinning Babies
- When Survivors Give Birth
- Birth Doula Training

International Speaker Tammy Ryan, AdvCD/BDT(DONA), SpBT is a birth doula trainer for DONA International, childbirth educator, midwifery assistant and one of seven trainers world wide for Spinning Babies. She started working Internationally in 2008 when she went to DR Congo to train life saving skills in childbirth according to the World Health Organization. She has taught in Haiti, Rwanda, Burundi, Tanzania, Korea, Kenya, India, Japan, Israel, & Brazil. Tammy has presented childbirth information on several venues including international conferences, TV, radio, universities and to the Ministry of Health. Tammy teaches When Survivors Give Birth as a way to help survivors understand what triggers can be and strategies for coping. Tammy has experienced first hand the barriers women face worldwide in getting adequate care in childbirth and postpartum. Tammy's presentations combine her knowledge and experience with hands one practice to make her a sought after speaker.

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