

DURING LABOR  
AND DELIVERY

SUPPORT  
PEOPLE



**OB**

Obstetricians (doctors) support the physical health and comfort of the birthing person during labor and delivery. Typically, they direct the medical team. They perform vaginal deliveries and C-sections.



**MIDWIFE**

Midwives have a similar role as OBs during labor and delivery, responsible for the physical health and comfort of the birthing person. The main difference between a midwife and an OB is a difference in education and specialized skills. They only perform vaginal deliveries.



**DOULA**

Doulas provide non-medical support during labor and delivery. Doulas can help the birthing person advocate for themselves. Doulas are trained in physical and emotional comfort measures.



**NURSE**

Nurses support the birthing person’s physical health and comfort. Nurses will monitor vitals, give medications, and conduct assessments, making sure the birthing person and baby are doing well. They may be able to assist with lactation following delivery.



**PARTNER &  
SUPPORT  
PEOPLE**

Partners or support people are important members of the team too! All birthing hospitals in Southwest Michigan allow at least one support person during labor and delivery.

