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The New Zealand Home Birth Association

The New Zealand Home Birth Association,
P.O. Box 7083, Wellesley St., Auckland, 1.

Affiliated with NATIONAL ASSOCIATION for PARENTS and
PROFESSIONALS for SAFE ALTERNATIVE CHILDBIRTH, U.S.A.

The Director General Of Health,
Department of Health,
WELLINGTON

6th September 1982

Dear Sir,

re: Services of Domiciliary Midwives

The Auckland Branch of the New Zealand Home Birth Association is very concerned about the shortage of domiciliary midwives in the greater Auckland area. The situation is particularly acute in the Takapuna Health District.

At present we know of a number of women who want home births but who are unable to obtain nursing services.

What in your view is the duty of the Department towards women opting for home births who seek the services of a midwife?

Is the Department prepared to advertise within New Zealand for domiciliary midwives?

If there are no nurses available with the required training is the Department willing to consider overseas recruitment?

Yours sincerely,


Barbara MacFarlane,
Sec. Auckland Branch.