

# AUCKLAND HOME BIRTH ASSOCIATION

P.O. Box 7093 Wellesley Street Auckland

20073-27-061



Dr Gabrielle Collison  
Medical Superintendant  
National Womens Hospital

22 May 1985

Dear Dr Collison

We understand that nursing shortages are forcing the closure of one of your postnatal wards. This will undoubtedly result in a greater number of mothers being discharged by 48 hours postnatally.

At present there are more Domiciliary Midwives practising in Auckland than ever before in recent history. Because these midwives stay with women throughout their labours, they are unable to take more than one booking per week for home births, but are able to cope with a much greater amount of postnatal care.

Domiciliary Midwives are dealing with mothers and babies all the time. They are highly skilled and experienced in all aspects of maternal and neonatal care. For these reasons we feel the care that they are able to give is superior to that presently available to early discharge mothers through the Community Nursing Service.

A number of Auckland Domiciliary Midwives are willing to take on the postnatal care of mothers discharged early from your hospital. I have enclosed lists of names and contact numbers for these midwives and hope that you will feel able to pass them on to the Charge Nurses on your postnatal wards.

Sincerely

Brenda Hinton  
Secretary AHBA