

My name is Char'ly Snow. I'm a change agent for the women in the community that I serve here in Detroit. So I discovered my passion in what I wanted to do with my life at 13. And I feel like that's when life began. When my brother was being born, my mother started to have complications. But in the midst of the chaos of her birthing experience, a calm sense came over me. I was able to assist her, get her the help she needed. And it was then that I knew that I was going to help women in some form or fashion. I was going to be involved with the care of women throughout their birthing experience. So most of my decisions throughout my adolescence going through to college were based around that goal of wanting to serve women. I was exposed to midwifery in college by another midwife who helped me explore what it meant, and how exactly did I want to help women. I realized that it wasn't going to be about knowing how to cut them or how to perform a surgery. It was going to be how to tend to their needs as they define them and how to help them shape their families and how to care for them in their entirety... and that's what midwifery meant to me.

For the future, I am really motivated to see something different than what I see today. As beautiful as birth is. It's overshadowed, particularly in our city... it's overshadowed by the disparities amongst the experiences that the women are having across the country, particularly African American women who are experiencing birth or being robbed of the experience of birth. And I want to see a difference... and so in the future, I really am just looking towards finding ways, actionable items, that I can help contribute to the change for women, particularly African American women in the City of Detroit.