

Melissa L. Harley, AdvCD/BDT(DONA), LCCE, CLC, FACCE
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Professional Summary

Accomplished doula trainer, maternal health advocate, and nonprofit leader with over 20 years of experience in birth support, education, and program development. Adept at conference coordination, curriculum design, and strategic leadership within professional organizations.

Education & Certifications

Florida State University – Bachelor of Arts

Tallahassee Community College – Associate of Arts

DONA International – Advanced Certified Birth Doula & Birth Doula Trainer (AdvCD/BDT)

Lamaze International – Certified Childbirth Educator (LCCE)

Healthy Children Project – Certified Lactation Counselor (CLC)

Fellow of the Academy of Childbirth Educators (FACCE)

Professional Experience

Capital City Doula Services – Owner, Educator, Mentor (2003 – Present)

- Provided doula services and childbirth education to 1,500+ families.
- Trained and mentored over 1,000 new doulas.
- Developed and supervised internship programs for FSU students.

DONA International

Conference Coordinator (May 2023 – Present)

- Lead planning and execution of annual conferences, including logistics and speaker coordination.
- Enhance engagement through innovative learning experiences.

Elevate Manager (Jan 2024 – Present)

- Oversee the Elevate webinar platform, supporting global professional development.
- Implement strategies to expand content reach and membership engagement.

Consultant & Trainer (2010 – Present)

- Provide doula training and program development for maternal health organizations.
 - Conduct research and present best practices for perinatal care policy improvements.
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Leadership & Volunteer Roles

President, DONA International (2019 – 2020)

Director of Marketing & Public Relations, DONA International (2016 – 2018)

Southeastern US Regional Director, DONA International (2015 – 2016)

Publications & Media Features

Podcast Guest: *InCast* – “Certifying Doulas to Serve Families Since 1992”

Journal & Blog Contributions: *DONA Blog, Science & Sensibility, Journal of Perinatal Education*

Book Contributions: *The Many Faces of Joyful Birth* (2011), *A Mother’s Strength* (2010)

Curriculum Development: *Online Childbirth Education Course*(2024), *Virtual DONA International Birth Doula Training* (2020), *DONA International Doula Training* (2009), *Lamaze Certification* (2005)

Conferences & Continuing Education

17 DONA International Conferences (Virtual & In-Person)

6 Lamaze International Conferences

Leadership Conferences: *The Orange Conference, MOPS International, Let’s Get Organized Summit*

Skills & Expertise

Nonprofit Leadership | Conference & Event Planning

Curriculum Development | Maternal & Infant Health Advocacy

Public Speaking & Media Relations | Program Development & Evaluation

Bio:

Melissa L. Harley, AdvCD/BDT(DONA), LCCE, CLC, FACCE, is a seasoned doula trainer, maternal health advocate, and nonprofit leader with over two decades of experience in birth support, education, and program development. As the owner of Capital City Doula Services, she has trained and mentored over 1,200 doulas and provided childbirth education to more than 1,500 families. Melissa currently serves as the Conference Coordinator and Elevate Manager for DONA International, leading professional development initiatives and event planning. A respected speaker, educator, and consultant, she has contributed to national maternal health policies, curriculum development, and published works in perinatal education. With a strong background in nonprofit leadership, marketing, and program development, she continues to advance the field of doula care through advocacy, mentorship, and education.