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NEWS RELEASE

Leading experts on birth and early parenting gather for DONA International 13th Annual Conference

St. Louis ... Leading experts on birth and early parenting will speak July 19 – 22 at the upcoming conference of DONA International, the world's oldest and largest doula association. Doulas offer professional support to families in the childbearing year, including physical, emotional and informational support.

Journalists are welcomed to attend. DONA International also serves journalists by coordinating interviews with conference speakers and other experts.

Among the featured speakers are:

- ❑ Jeanne Watson Driscoll, PhD, co-author of *Women's Moods: What every woman must know about hormones, the brain, and emotional health* and of *Postpartum Mood and Anxiety Disorders: A Clinician's Guide*, speaking on **postpartum depression**;
- ❑ Maureen P. Corry, MPH, executive director of Childbirth Connection, will share the results from the organization's second *Listening to Mothers* survey. When taken together with the first, these landmark surveys are valuable resources for understanding and **improving women's childbearing experiences**;
- ❑ Michael C. Klein, MD, a renowned emeritus professor of family practice and pediatrics at the University of British Columbia, speaks on the **rise of cesareans on request**;
- ❑ Ricardo H. Jones, MD, an obstetrician-gynecologist and homeopath from Porto Alegre, Brazil, and an international advocate for humanization in childbirth, will speak on **effective collaborations between midwives, doulas and doctors to support women in childbirth**.

About 400 birth and postpartum doulas, childbirth educators, nurses, midwives, doctors, message therapists, lactation consultants, parent educators and social workers are expected in St. Louis for the 13th Annual DONA International Conference.

For a full conference schedule, visit www.DONA.org. For a conference press pass, please contact Sandra Whitehead at 414.223.7500, ext. 125.

DONA International is the oldest and largest doula association in the world. This international, non-profit organization supports doulas by providing quality training and meaningful certification.