



Barbara Harper, RN, CLD, CCCE, Midwife

Blissborn Trainer

Barbara is an internationally recognized expert on waterbirth and gentle birth, and a published author. She founded Waterbirth International in 1988, with one goal in mind -- to ensure that waterbirth is an "available option" for all women. During the past four decades, Barbara has worked as an obstetric, cardiac care, and pediatric nurse; a midwife; a midwifery instructor; a childbirth educator; a doula and a doula trainer; and she has used her vast experience to develop unique seminars which she teaches within hospitals, nursing schools, midwifery and medical schools, and community groups worldwide. Barbara was recognized in 2002 by Lamaze International for her contributions in promoting normal birth on an international level.

Barbara first started traveling to China in 2002. She appreciates the culture and history of China, the vast knowledge in traditional Chinese medicine, and enjoys working with mothers, doctors, midwives and nurses. Her bestselling book and DVD, "Gentle Birth Choices" has been translated into nine languages so far, including the new Mandarin edition, released in 2016. Her next book, "Embracing the Miracle: The Science, Safety and Spirit of Birth in Water," will be ready for publication in 2017. Barbara has dedicated her life to changing the way we welcome babies into the world. She has three adult children (two of whom were born at home in water), and one grandson in college. She lives in Boca Raton, FL, where she is active in the community as a volunteer, a midwife and doula mentor. Barbara's website is www.waterbirth.org.