

Membership Application and Lending Library Agreement

MidAtlantic Babywearing is the local babywearing education group for Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and Delaware, and is a non-profit group.

To become a member of our chapter you must:

- 1) Fill out the membership application and agreement.
- 2) Pay your dues of \$30/single carrier or \$50/two carriers for 12 months or \$10/one month trial by PayPal Membership Donation becomes active when application AND payment have been received.

PURPOSE

We offer a place for caregivers to learn about the art of babywearing and how to apply it in their lives. We have a variety of events that take place throughout the tristate, including monthly meetings, playgroups, and outreach events. Our Volunteer Babywearing Educators (VBEs) are able to provide assistance to caregivers at meetings, maintain our lending library, teach classes, and answer questions in our Facebook group and on our other social media sites.

MEMBERSHIP

Membership with our organization is a donation of \$30 per year for one carrier or \$50 per year for two carrier checkout. One benefit of membership is that it allows you to check out one or two carrier(s) at a time from our lending library. Membership is optional, but we encourage all attendees to join to help support organization. We are also offering a trial membership of one month for \$10 with the option to upgrade \$20 to a full membership for the 12 months.

WHERE YOUR DUES GO:

Membership dues are used by MidAtlantic Babywearing (MAB) to provide education and support to caregivers, and to promote babywearing within our community. All of the directors and officers of our organization, and those who help with MAB are volunteers who receive no compensation for their services. Dues are used to purchase library carriers, cover administrative fees, website hosting, meeting location fees, postage, printing, etc.

EVENTS

- Monthly Meetings -- We hold monthly meetings located throughout the tristate where caregivers can attend, receive babywearing support and help, and where members can check out carriers from our lending library. Our meetings are free to attend; membership dues are not required. Locations, dates and times are listed on our website and in our Facebook group.
- Playgroups – We offer occasional playgroups for everyone to get together outside of our regular meetings. Playgroups are not meetings and are not led by VBEs. Locations, dates and times are available through our Facebook group.
- Community Outreach – We offer special classes and outreach events to different groups within our community. If you are interested in having one of our educators teach to your group, please contact us.
- Babywearing Classes/Special Events- We occasionally provide special babywearing classes relating to a variety of specialty topics, like wrapping, emergency carries, etc. If you would like to see a specific class, please contact us with your suggestions.

MEMBERSHIP TERMS AND AGREEMENT

1) I understand that MidAtlantic Babywearing (MAB) Volunteer Babywearing Educators and group leaders are volunteers and not professionals. I affirm that I am not acting in reliance on any advice received from them and that, instead, I am responsible for evaluating the usefulness and safety of any babywearing technique or device that I use with my baby. I affirm that I will hold MAB and its group leaders and volunteers harmless of and from any claim or cause of action whatsoever arising from any injury to myself or my child related to or caused in any way by babywearing.

2) I understand that babywearing has many benefits but is not without risk, and that the risks include, but are NOT limited to, FALLS (either while putting the baby into the carrier or while using the carrier), POSITIONAL ASPHYXIA (if baby is held in a position that closes his or her airway), and PHYSICAL STRAIN for the person carrying the baby. I understand that it is my responsibility to ensure my baby's airway is open and unobstructed, and that it is my responsibility not to drop my baby. I understand that I am responsible for my own well-being and my baby's while babywearing.

3) I assume the responsibility for safely using all carriers, and for inspecting the stitching and fabric on all carriers to ensure that the carrier is sound and suitable for use with my child, and I assume the risk of using a carrier. Each time I borrow a carrier, I agree to indemnify and hold harmless MidAtlantic Babywearing (MAB), its leaders, and members, for any harm that may result to me or my child from the use of the carrier, including any harm allegedly resulting from the Releases' instruction or alleged failure to instruct.

Acknowledgment of Risk and Release of Liability/Release of liability:

In consideration for participation in the activities of MidAtlantic Babywearing (MAB) including but not limited to (1) attending educational events; (2) receiving guidance on babywearing techniques; (3) applying such guidance in my private use of baby carriers; and (4) using baby carriers provided at meetings or through a lending library ("Program"), I, on behalf of myself and my minor child(ren), binding our heirs, estate, executors, and personal representative(s), hereby fully and forever release, waive, and agree to hold harmless MAB and each of their respective directors, officers, agents, representatives, volunteers, and affiliates (hereinafter all referred to collectively or separately as "Released Parties"), from any and all claims, remedies, and complaints of any kind which I and/or my minor child(ren) have or may have, whether known or unknown, arising from or related to participation in the Program. THIS DOCUMENT RELEASES RELEASED PARTIES FROM LIABILITY TO THE MAXIMUM EXTENT PERMITTED BY APPLICABLE LAW, INCLUDING LIABILITY FOR NEGLIGENCE. Assumption of risk. I am voluntarily participating in the Program for the benefit of myself and my children. I assume all risks of such participation, including the risks of accidents, injury, and death to myself and/or my child(ren). I specifically acknowledge my understanding that (1) guidance and recommendations on babywearing are provided by uncompensated volunteer babywearing educators ("VBES") who are not medical practitioners and are not required to have any specialized training in infant development or care; (2) guidance and recommendations on babywearing are general in nature and may not be appropriate for me or my child(ren); (3) any opinions voiced by VBES with respect to particular carriers, manufacturers, or vendors represent personal opinion and not the views of the other Released Parties; (4) carriers from the lending library may have sustained previous damage and be unsafe for use; and (5) MidAtlantic Babywearing (MAB) is completely separate and independent from any other babywearing group and is solely responsible for its own actions and omissions.

Representations. I hereby represent that I am mentally and physically fit to participate in the Program; that neither I nor my child(ren) suffer from any ailment or disability that would make participation in the

program hazardous, unwise, or a potential source of danger to us or others; and that I will not lend or convey any carrier provided by the Released Parties to another person. Severability. The provisions of this agreement are severable. I HAVE READ AND FULLY UNDERSTAND THIS AGREEMENT. I FREELY AND VOLUNTARILY AGREE TO BE BOUND BY ITS TERMS AND CONDITIONS. *

Violation of these policies may result in termination of a member's borrowing privileges without a refund of dues.