**Southwest Iowa Breastfeeding Coalition Meeting**

**Date: Monday, July 14, 2025**

**Time: 12:00pm- 1:30pm**

**Our meeting today will be at Firefly (830 N. 14th Street, Ste. 201) or virtual using the Zoom Link Below**

**Zoom Virtual option:**   
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86707696022?pwd=Zupwj31JDnmlevWkC3P8fhil8fTIz0.1&from=addon>

12:00 pm Introductions and agency updates

* Kris Wood, Pottawattamie County WIC-
* Brooke Sukup, Children’s-
* Kay Eng, Pottawattamie County WIC-
* Sumer Sandholm, Montgomery County Public Health
* Edna Dsouza, CHI Health-
* Kim Meschde, CHI Immanuel-
* Kaiya Mears, Visting Nurse Association-
* Stacia Kennedy, Nebraska Medicine-
* Jenny Sharrick, Firefly-
* Jenny Stom, Firefly-
* Janelle Anderson, CHI Mercy- passed her IBCLC test! (woohoo!)
* Brittney Christiansen, Jennie Edmundson- breastfeeding at the zoo! August 7th 8:30 am – 4:30 pm
* Raelee Thompson, Firefly- working on CBS training soon!
* Cara Cacy, Myrtue Medical Center-

12:05 pm Old Business

* 2025 goal updates
  + *Add one milk depot and/or drop-off site to the existing Iowa Milk Bank Network in our coverage area. Maybe we could draft a letter from the Coalition to support that request. Madelyn is working on one in Missouri Valley at CHI. No updates in July. Would like to get more information from Jean Drulis about the refrigerator temperature tracking so we can better understand where would be a feasible partner. Omaha: Children’s, Nebraska Medicine, & MilkWorks is also a drop-off depot. Jennie Edmundson and Myrtue are also drop-off depots on the Iowa side.*
  + *Annually update & communicate out breastfeeding support resources in the service area. This has been updated! Kay will send it out to the group for us to double check any updates by THIS FRIDAY. We will create printed copies with Coffective funding.*
  + *Provide lactation education for child care providers & recognize them as family friendly businesses. Training is set up for childcare providers via CCNC. There are about 158 providers in the 6 county area. Training is scheduled for August 6.*
  + *Identify World Breastfeeding Week activities. Things we know about: Community Wellness Bash (August 7), National Night Out, Lakin Campus, Chiropractor in Bedford, LC Clinic (we don’t think they will be having an event-open only 3 hours every Wednesday and no breastfeeding support), Cultivate Community in Glenwood (August 6), Breastfeeding at the Zoo (August 7)*
    - Kayia and Jenny Sharrick will touch base to do a Lakin campus event. Can get information out to employees about services offered on campus at the very least. Potentially do a virtual tour of the campus lactation locations to post on social media.
    - WBW social media too. Share out the information with posters to have at booths at community events. <https://worldbreastfeedingweek.org/>
    - Jenny will share invite to Wellness Bash, Cultivate Communities, and Breastfeeding at the Zoo as she gets the flyers
* Posting Bios
  + Send your picture and bio to <https://forms.office.com/r/UvQbGDi24i>
* Family (Breastfeeding) Friendly Business Recognition.
  + Please submit nominations here: <https://forms.office.com/r/F8jnMMBNwJ>
  + Suggestions from past meetings: MICAH House Child Development Center, Lakin Campus, day care center in Woodbine, and LC Clinic: <https://www.iowalcclinic.org/contactus>.
  + Submitted one for Leach Camper Sales for Nursing Nook support
* Social Media Updates ([Instagram](https://www.instagram.com/swia_breastfeeding_coalition?igsh=MXQ3dHkza2E5dHpocw==) [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/swiabreastfeedingcoalition/) [Website](https://stephaniemelchert.wixsite.com/swiabfcoalition))
* Posting Bios
* Will post WBW items over the course of August.
* Continuing ed & certifications
* [Olson Center Breastfeeding Conference](https://www.unmc.edu/cce/clinicmed/upcoming/breastfeeding/index.html) August 27, 2025 (registration information at the link)

12:50 pm New Business

* Iowa Breastfeeding Coalition update
  + No update this meeting
* Coffective update
  + 6 scholarship slots for Certified Breastfeeding Specialist training are all signed up!
  + Going to survey and focus groups to learn barriers to breastfeeding. Trying to figure out what we are missing to serve more families. If you have suggestions on what to ask moms, please let Kris Wood know.
* Other new business?
  + - * Don’t forget as health fair and baby shower season are coming up, that we can use the breastfeeding nook! Contact Kris Wood if you are needing to borrow it.
        + The kit includes tape, first aid kit, milk labels, cords, chairs, the feather flag to identify that it’s a breastfeeding space.
        + Harrison
      * LC Clinic is only open for 3 hours per week on Wednesdays, but is no longer offering lactation services. Potential options for Cass mamas is to go to weekly mama meet-ups with Cass Health or to go Myrtue. Jenny Sharrick will invite to next breastfeeding coalition so we can get an update on services.
      * CHI Immanuel is not able to figure out how to bill outpatient lactation support outside of support groups.
      * Where are folks getting training done?
        + LER CBS training-sometimes they have sales, so that’s awesome!
        + Iowa Breastfeeding Coalition training (not certificate), but could be offered virtually for folks interested in learning more about lactation support generally
      * Is getting donor breastmilk for families any easier? Insurance coverage?
        + Connecting to MilkWorks and they are expensive ($25/4 oz pouch) and can have 5 pouches per day for outpatient. No insurance coverage. If someone needs more after the pouches, they share information on informal milk sharing out of Lincoln
        + [Malone Milkshare Nebraska](https://malonecenter.org/malone-milkshare-program/)- recipient and donor do blood test and questionnaire; milk is free, but not pasteurized; (Omaha and Lincoln)
        + Human Milk for Human Babies—[Nebraska](https://www.facebook.com/HM4HB.Nebraska/) and [Iowa](https://www.facebook.com/HM4HBIA/) chapters
        + Eats on Feets—[Iowa](https://www.facebook.com/EOFIowa/) and [Nebraska](https://www.facebook.com/EOFNebraska/) chapters
        + Provide education to families on questions to ask and milk handling/storage when using informal milk sharing sites.
        + MilkBank in Iowa requires referral, diagnosis, and costs money. Insurance is not going to cover it most likely.
* Next meeting: September 15 12 – 1:30 pm

1:15 pm Adjourn



Serving 10 Counties in Iowa including Cass, Crawford, Fremont, Harrison, Mills, Monona, Montgomery, Page, Pottawattamie, Shelby

A group of women holding a certificate

AI-generated content may be incorrect.

**Family Friendly Business Recognition presentation June 13, 2025 – Southwest Iowa Families**

Pictured: Brittany Garey, Kris Wood (Pottawattamie County WIC Program), Brandi Herzberg