# Nebraska Breastfeeding Coalition Quarterly Membership Meeting: May 2, 2023

# Location: Hybrid - Family Services Lincoln & Zoom

#### **AGENDA**

9:00-9:30am: Welcome, brunch, agenda

9:30-10:00am: Getting (re)acquainted: introductions 10:00-10:30am: Membership Engagement Discussion

10:30-11:00am: Challenges & solutions

11:00-11:30am: Report out

11:30am-11:45am: Member updates/coalition updates

11:45-12:00pm-Action Item Recap and Adjourn

## Stephanie, start time 9:24

#### Introductions:

Chelsea Iarmeu - Beatrice Community Hospital

Ashley Neesen - Albion NE Breastfeeding USA

Tina Vettle - Brian Health Grand Island Regional

Leah James - CHI/WIC

Kayla Abel - WIC program coordinator Lincoln Family Services

Nicole Christiansen - WIC breastfeeding program outreach

Tami Frank

Kathy Leeper - Milkworks

Diana - CLC

Emily Pulse - children's hospital

Karina - Co chair

Aurea - visiting professor at UNL does bf research in Brazil

Kari Johnson - LC at Methodist

Shannon s - peer counselor at WIC

Ann Seacrest - PHL. SECC

Melanie Horstman - IBCLC, Nurture Omaha

Stephanie Bradley - CLC, touch of gold

## Stephanie:

What do you need from us introduction

13 folks in person - will break into groups of 3-4

Membership Discussion
Materials needed: large Post its, pens, markers
Why did you join the coalition?
What do you or your organization bring to the coalition?
What would you like the coalition to do/have/ or be for you?

Tonya Steel - became a CLC, feels coalition helps staff better care for patients, would like coalition to provide support to staff (CEU/edu)

Chelsea - became a CLC ideas how to increase breastfeeding numbers at our hospital, Would like coalition to give ideas on how we can get position for LC position at hospital Leah James - WIC resources, hospital resources, connect lactation resources across the state, CEU, journal club

T Perry - joined for networking idea sharing and educational opportunities. WAnt to help support lactation team

Ashley Neesen - rural Nebraska had great access in Omaha, but not rural. Conuinuteding ED, provider education is needed in rural community

Dorothea - aspires to be IBCLC, wants to help bridge the gap in minority women Wants coalition to provide CEUs

Kayla Abel - is WIC dietitian and made sense, WIC brings bf rates data sources, community resources, how we can be more involved in community, resources for staff and parents Nicole - WIC breastfeeding coordinator, same as Kayla

Tami Frank - PHL, joined for networking, bring resources, statewide advocacy/ networking Angie Cantrell - community education direction, was LLL and now Milkworks, resource sharing, networking and some data, statewide advocacy, policy changes

Kathy Leeper - joined when it formed as a breastfeeding medicine specialist, necessary to have communication, share resources and effect change, can offer liaison to positions that are hard to reach, would like coalition to find champions around the state

Dina - community action/head start joined to stay connected to bf community as a CLC, to learn and understand what is happening in the community, org can bring understanding of diversity and low income population, education opportunities and information

Emily Hulse - Children's hospital, own breastfeeding journey sparked interest, want other moms to have positive breastfeeding experiences, breastfeeding is a passion of hers, in early childhood world there's not a lot of breastfeeding resources, to get childcare centers and homes education and resources. Works in food security in Children's bf is beginning of food security, community impact grants due on Friday 10-25k grants. Appreciative educational opportunities and networking.

Tiffany - executive director Milkworks, Milkworks has legacy with founders of coalition, new to the lactation field, systematic change, big picture stuff, only happens with collaborating, Aurea- Goes back to Brazil in august - hopes to learn about breastfeeding in Nebraska, networking for research, maternity leave 4-6 months in Brazil, regulating of marketing of

formula, strong primary healthcare services, still difficult to breastfeed, but is a priority of public services.

Kari Johnson - joined because passion to be successful, nurse IBCLC, stay active, LT for Douglas county coalition, networking, Methodist is a leader in the state, works off of evidence based practices, can provide data and network, wants education support staff, night shift supplementation happens - wants more CLCs for

Shannon S - same as Kayla, were members already, what resources are available for breastfeeding women in our community.

Ann Seacrest - started coalition with Leeper, joined leadership team now, culturally diverse community breastfeeding educators, really need diverse support, they really need connection, coalition is moving and responding to the dinamic of the

Leslie - Breastfeeding coordinator - breastfeeding peer counselor, we want to connect with like minded individuals, learn about partnerships and create partnerships, brings data, wants coalition to continue to do what they are doing to help clients at WIC,

Bobbie B - direction at WIC landcaster department - first meeting, don't have a lot of great answers, excited to be here

Jackie Moline - maternal infant health program for DHHS, Certfied health coach, provide breastfeeding resources and materials and programs throughout the state, continue offering CEUs, IBCLC/CLC/CBs, resources throughout the state not just in Lincoln and Omaha areas. Karina - joined because the mission sounded great, has learned a lot from the coalition, networking is very important. Bilingual, tries to bring other info in from other organizations, connections, networking is important, would like networking from coalitions, finding more people in other parts of the state that we didn't think were available, CEUs, map Melanie - joined to renew passion, offers LGBTQ and inclusive background, wants everyone to

Stephanie - so much didn't know about coalition, joined coalition when got CLC grant, so much more she learned, you see so much more than what you would watching at home. Wants to know what you need so we can be effective. Big ideas - wants change, needs to access rural Nebraska, adjust racial diversity - black women!

feel supported and valuable.

Rita Bixby - Fillmore county, joined in 2016, in Geneva, got a grant through coalition to start initiatives, were successful for a while, stopped having babies in the involved group, rural Nebraska, jealous of support in larger cities, people will talk about it to a point, publicly state we support breastfeeding, but on own time and don't wash bottles or supplies where people can see it. Need to change culture.

Toni Wilson - NE extension in Omaha, valuable reliable and attainable resources that are useful to her programs mission,

Need: develop relationships with senators, email senators more often, meet one on one. Invites to meetings.

Icebreaker activity
What is the most interesting experience you've ever had, related to lactation support/breastfeeding?

#### **Challenges & Solutions**

Materials needed: sticky notes, pens, flip charts

Break into 3 groups to focus on shared challenges and solutions within our 3 strategic goal areas. What are challenges that lactation professionals are facing in these areas? What are possible solutions?

**Goal 1:** Improve the lactation workforce through diversification and professional support in Nebraska by 2025.

Objective 1.1: Increase educational opportunities to increase timely and up-to-date lactation professional development across the State by 2025.

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Objective 1.2: Support viable and sustainable International Board-Certified Lactation Consultant training efforts that ultimately increase IBCLCs of Color by 2025.

- Lactation world as a career isn't acknowledged until they become a parent
- Insurance restrictions as in who can get reimbursement
- Introduce it earlier into high school, college, etc.
- Issues finding mentors in rural errors
- Membership drive at WIC meeting
- Find out all organizations lactation supports are involved with list it
- Verified mentorship for IBCLC in a more formalized way pathway 1, recognized breastfeeding counselor organization (Touch of Gold)
- Making sure people know the coalition exists

**Goal 2:** Increase NE BFC visibility and reach among Nebraska community partners by 2025. Objective 2.1: Grow the NE BFC's General Membership to create a unified network of knowledge and practice.

Objective 2.2: Equitably build capacity of local Community Breastfeeding Initiatives through resource sharing and brokering partnerships.

- Try to get word out about NEBFC
- Coalition has high 5 program (BF friendly organization)
- Campaign materials pictures of people breastfeeding, well known figures.
- Current breastfeeding friendly designation for businesses
- In august post from breastfeeding coalition, asking partners to share post
- Updating list of community partners and CBIs
- Brazil breastfeeding day LATCH ON day in August every county has a courthouse.

**Goal 3:** Increase NE BFC network advocacy efforts by 2025 for relevant policies and practices at the local, State, and national levels that promote breastfeeding in Nebraska.

Objective 3.1: Regularly engage local and State partners, including those representing health systems, to discuss and address policies and practices impacting the lactation workforce and/or breastfeeding families.

Objective 3.2: Monitor and advocate for national policies and practices promoting breastfeeding intention, initiation, duration, and exclusivity.

#### Challenges:

- -Let policy makers know who are and how we can assist
- -Longer maternity leave is necessary Solution: make handout that anyone can give their senator
- -Need to be more involved. USBC rep update during coalition meetings. Support national policies that
- -Health System baby friendly designation, getting hospitals to sign on to those standards. Breastfeeding champion hospital NPQIC scores LEARN program.
- -Back to work: benefit to employer, community involvement mailer for workplaces

Increase Doctors presence in lactation:

-8 hour course for providers - IABLE

#### Senators:

- -Advocacy days with senators (cost? Provide food?)
- -Partnering with lobbyists that are watching bills

Senators to champion with: Michaela Cavanaugh Megan Hunt

Carol Blood

Tina - biweekly education facts, moms get inaccurate information from doctors, reach out to PCP. PDF fact sheet share from IABLE

Classes in high school about health and nutrition in breastfeeding.

#### **Report Out**

Share highlights from discussions in each of the strategic goal areas.

#### Coalition updates/funding:

Discuss our funding status, plans to seek new funding, and what those dollars would support.

If we do not get funding we will not be able to continue.

We will not have a coordinator for the interim until we are comfortable with our funding

We need funding, can you help?

Ann - are we an organization that supports providers or parents? Coalition should bring providers together. We are an organization of volunteers so we are limited. Increase organizational memberships.

# Member/Coalition Update

Allow coalition members to share new/upcoming projects, publications, or other things on the horizon - they can email us with those updates and we will include them in the newsletter.

# Adjourn 11:55am

Wrap up meeting highlights, relay coalition action items from discussion, invite members to the next meeting, invite members to donate and to invite others to donate.