

Clark County Breastfeeding Coalition Meeting Minutes

Mission The coalition works collaboratively to connect, educate, and promote breastfeeding practices in all Clark County communities.

Monday, April 27th 2020
10:00-11:30
Meeting Objective: To learn and get updates from breastfeeding experts on what is happening with breastfeeding supporting during COVID-19.

Topic	Person	Discussion
Welcome	Yasmina Akin & Grace LaConte	
WIC	Jennifer Dickison –WIC Coordinator Tricia Pace-Lactation Promotion Supervisor	Jennifer -Serving just 6000 clients per month. Typically clients come in every 2-3 months to check in on various issues. Offer nutrition education and receive their WIC benefits. Mid -March received notification to close door to the public and begin appts by phone. Not sure when they will go back to go office visits. WIC is able to issue benefits remotely and provide them with cards similar to an EBT card. There has been an increase with participation. No show rates are going down. There is a captive audience. Challenge for staff to provide nutrition content but they are using to the occasion and state provide training materials to work around the barriers. Tricia -peer counseling do most of their contact via phone and systems are web-base. Working well Biggest challenge not being able to see and work directly with family for latch support. Still issuing pumps. All paperwork is done over the phone. Exchanges are done in the parking lot. Weighing the babies is also a challenge Knowing that their breastfeeding concerns with other stressors, BF concerns might be exasperated during this time. Successes: Clients are grateful. Feds approved and extended food. Increased a variety of foods. Staff are grateful to still be working Breastfeeding education is provided over the phone or via computer. They have a class to share with them and go over with them together. Hoping to keep the some of the platforms going.
WA Department of Health	Milo Nicholas- Breastfeeding Friendly WA Coordinator	Working with the hospital associations such as medical and public health experts to develop an educational document during the COVID. There has been some hiccups with breastfeeding community running into with the general medical community. WHO, United States Breastfeeding Committee and local lactation advocate the use of donated breastmilk. Others are suggesting to use formula as they still do not know if COVID can pass through breastmilk . Best practice has not been determined and this has caused a delay in creating educational materials. There has been a shift in what equity looks like. An example, if mom, baby or dad is suspected of having symptoms of COVID, hospitals are trying to separate mom and infant. When there is not a written policy, it can create inequities especially among communities of color, ESL, people suffering from substance use, low income
Legacy Hospital	Tara Buck-Lactation Consultant	Works on the floor as a nurse in post-partum care center. See all moms at 2-3 days after they go home. All nurses in postpartum department are IBCLC certified. If moms are still needing help, they are referring them to another lactation appt. Families are getting really good support. Lots of precautions. Staff and patients wear masks. Tried telephone counsel. Insurance is not covering telehealth. Working in a hospital, there have been rumors about mom separate from baby but not for a PUI issue. They have not had to separate with mom and baby as Tara knows of. That is in talks but it's not concrete. They have a lot of advocates that support breastfeeding. If they are positive COVID, they wear a mask and have minimal contact with baby but still have the baby in the room. The nurses see the babies 2-3 days after they have gone home because the pediatrician community is overwhelmed. Pediatricians rely on them to see these families to look for jaundice, check weight, feeding, help bridge that time when breastfeeding is challenging. This is when latch is difficult, engorgement. They have not had many no-shows. Families really want the support.

Milk Time Lactation	Martha Suronen Owner	<p>Owner of Milk Time Lactation and lactation practice over 10 years. Has gotten select insurance companies to cover telehealth. Before COVID, weekly breastfeeding support groups were available. With COVID and social distancing in place, now offering 30 minute visits where moms can drop in to weigh their baby. Attendance is free.</p> <p>Is still doing face to face visits in their homes primarily with medical providers, nurses and PTs.</p> <p>Face to face is more critical. Insurance billing is amazing and has approved face to face with clients.</p> <p>Majority of moms have wanted in home contacts.</p> <p>Makes sure everything is sanitized between clients.</p> <p>Also works at PeaceHealth as an educator. Have been able to continue on with birth education and BF course.</p> <p>You can find more information on her website at Milktimelactation.com</p>
Black Parent Initiative	Linda Bryant-Daaka Doula Manager	<p>Lactation consultant. Have a program called Sacred roots Doula and Mobile lactation program. They service moms who are African American, African, Biracial. Looking at the infant mortality rates and lower breastfeeding rates especially with duration in this demographic. Program has been in existence for 2 years. Provide 4 sessions for education</p> <p>Doula's attend the birth</p> <p>Provide postpartum education.</p> <p>Continue seeing participants via remote access. It's a little difficult. They are not able to go into the hospital unless they have been designated that one person. Preparing the one person that can occupy them to the hospital.</p> <p>Still provide remote education. Getting ready to put the breastfeeding classes on-line. Still doing one on one and so do the doulas.</p> <p>.</p> <p>Would like to get more dialogue going what it looks like being African American, African or Biracial and navigating the hospital system.</p> <p>Challenges:</p> <p>Doulas are not able to be in the hospital</p>
PeaceHealth	Debbie Hunter- Lactation Program Manager	<p>Follow up clinic postpartum 2-3 days after discharge. Did not want to bring them back to the hospital. Families wanting early discharge which can be challenging.</p> <p>They found a clinic nearby and moved their clinic rooms. Weight check clinic after 3 days of discharge. Instead of following up with their pediatricians, they have a weight check clinic set up between 9-1 Monday, Wednesday and Friday. It is a no charge visit. 30 minutes.</p> <p>Can schedule for an outpatient clinic for a follow-up if need be.</p> <p>At the visits, moms are asked to bring a mask or given a mask. Moms take rapid test prior to entering. They are following up with phone calls to check in with anyone is isck, any fevers going on. They have a greeter that takes a temp at the door. Only one visitor in the family at a time.</p> <p>Talked about an online breastfeeding support group. Very concerned about postpartum depression. Make an effort to discuss that as well in their check-ins.</p>
Discussion/Q & A	All	<p>Grace-Are there any birthing centers in the area.</p> <p>Several birthing centers in the Portland area. Women's healthcare associates just had one at the center. An upcoming birth in July. Parents expecting doulas to attend.</p> <p>It is a little less lax.</p> <p>Moms fear going into the hospital to give birth and birthing centers is an option.</p> <p>Farmer's market vouchers</p> <p>Jennifer (WIC) Still planning on moving forward with farmer's market nutrition program</p> <p>State has mailed out the checks/vouchers to each local clinic. Will find out this afternoon how they will proceed.</p> <p>Right now, it would have to be a face to face to pick up their voucher</p>

		<p>Experience at the farmers market will be similar to a grocery store. Essential foods only. Booths are set up and spread out. All the markets are doing no currency unless you have snap benefits and can get tokens.</p> <p>Downtown Vancouver open this weekend. Other markets are planning on opening in June.</p> <p>Question about formula- Moms are not able to purchased formula. Can WIC answer if there is another option for them?</p> <p>Jennifer-stores are putting the formula and putting them in the customer service if need be. Clients can ask customer service if they have extra formula, if not, State will work with the grocery store and get more formula delivered to the grocery store.</p> <p>DOH is putting out some social media posts about the harm of making your own formula.</p> <p>Linda-CDC funded program called REACH looking at the health disparities that Multnomah County Health Department received . Lactation is under 2 strategies: nutrition and the other policy, system and engagement.</p> <p>Jacqueline Jimenez Community health plan of Washington able to do renewals over the phone. Informed patients sent out text messages to update participants.</p> <p>Renewals are being extended.</p>
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