



Breastfeeding Coalition

Mission Statement

The Healthy Kent 2020 Breastfeeding Coalition exists to improve the health and well being of infants and families through education, outreach and advocacy to promote and support breastfeeding and the use of human milk.

Minutes (draft) of Meeting: Monday, Nov 25, 2013; 1130am - 1:00pm

Attendees: Pat Tucker, Lois Ditmar, Barb Hawkins-Palmer (Kent County Health Dept); Margaret Biersack, Erin Keenan (Spectrum Health); Mary Lynn Wesorick (Metro Health); Kelli Damstra (GVSU); Denise Evans (Strong Beginnings); Carol Hennessy (Kent County Commissioner); Lauren Valentine (BF mom); Molly LaVanway (Med student 4); Valerie William (La Leche League); Maggie Demock (Dietetic Intern)

I. Introductions done

II. Minutes of Last Meeting: approved with 2 corrections – Christine Stancil is a peer counsellor from WIC (not Strong Beginnings) and Monica is now at KCHD / WIC (not MSU)

III. Traveling Display Finished product brought and displayed to group today.

Logo – Denise explained that temporary legal protection can be obtained by putting logo in an envelope and mail to post office, so that it will be mailed back to you and do not open envelope.

Use of display discussed. We could put it in the Coalition's Program Event Committee to coordinate having it at different events throughout the year, beyond World BF Week/Month in August. Ideas were Healthier Communities, Cherry Street, Salvation Army, Mom-to-Mom Sale events at DeVos,

IV. Education Committee report by Margaret Biersack- for the Breakfast Break planning on Feb 7. We have the Hispanic rep for the panel, not yet had the Vietnamese confirmation from Kayla. Still need to pursue leads on Burmese rep. Bosnian rep could be a WIC staff who works with the Bosnian population.

Still planning on 45 min presentation from Cherry Street staff on using an Interpreter for HC.

V. Prenatal Education Materials (for use in offices/clinics)

- Erin Keenan would like ideas for pursuing consistent messaging and materials.

- Kelli Damstra reported how she is visiting practices, mostly pediatricians to explain about for Baby Friendly Steering Committee Spectrum Health United. There is definitely more knowledge and awareness of changes in how we do breastfeeding now vs. when she was doing her graduate work.
- Barb H-P brought the binder with multiple hand-outs for breastfeeding topic for each OV that was a sample of work from another state coalition.
- KCHD Infant Health Team has new committee developing a tool to include screens for general psychosocial assessments which could include some awareness of BF for home visits. Project is just getting started.
- Mary Lynn brought a table tent Metro is now using to teach OB patients and families about the Skin to Skin practice immediately after birth.

VI. Carol Hennessey reporting Senate Bill 674. On Dec 10 at 2:30 – public testimony for passage of bill again in legislature for bf in public protection. She would like brief statements from a range of institutions and agencies in support, sent to the legislator and cc to her (cmhenn@aol.com). She is working with the State BF Network. We can also do a posting to our website.

VII. Infant feeding survey and WIC baby enrollment forms do not have anything to report right now

VIII. Michigan BF Network summit – Jonelle gave a report. Baby Friendly was the overall theme. The Network has a new website to check out. Ideas for next steps were shared. There is a hotline number if a woman feels she is being discriminated against for BF in public. We will look into putting this on our website. Strong encouragement given to have an evening meeting for a coalition.

IX. Pat suggested having a potluck celebration at the beginning of the year, and to invite people beyond the coalition to get more exposure and possibly more members/volunteers. We would need to plan more, so do that at our January meeting.

X. Nominations for steering committee We had some late nominations and need to table voting til next meeting. Will need chair elect, treasurer, Mary Lynn will stay as secretary for one more year and Margaret Biersack will remain as chair of the Education Committee. Kayla will not be able to serve as co-chair.

XI. Member Sharing

- Barb needs to report about our coalition to the HK Infant team. She shared a list of work from the last year and asked for input. We added a few things to an impressive list. Pat notes that there have been more “likes” of website that indicate community interest and increased exposure.
- St Marys has started purchasing donor milk for their babies with medical necessity.

Decisions

Follow-Up Steps

<i>Action</i>	<i>Responsible</i>	<i>Deadline</i>	<i>Follow-Up</i>

Next Meeting: January 27 ,2014 ; 11:30-1:00, Kent County Health Dept, Lake Superior Conference room

Agenda Items for next meeting:

Minutes Recorded by: Mary Lynn Wesorick, secty