



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, Oct. 27, 2014; 1130am - 1:00pm

Attendees: Lois Ditmar, Barb Hawkins-Palmer, Christopher Bendekgey (Kent County Health Dept); Margaret Biersack, (Spectrum Health); Jonelle Lund (Mercy St. Mary's); Mary Lynn Wesorick (Metro Health); Jennifer Duron (First Steps); Kelli Damstra (GVSU); Tony Jolliffi (Strong Beginnings); Lauren Valentine, Miriel Smith (BF moms);

Introductions Done

I. Minutes of Last Meeting: approved

II. Congratulations to Spectrum Health for being awarded as Breastfeeding Friendly designation

III. Milky Way Event: Feb 4 at Wealthy Street Theatre at 7 pm. They have funds for the advertising, but need Coalition to help distribute flyers in community. Also need members to staff the event in the theatre that evening for doors that open at 5:30. Jonelle will look into showing the pictures of the photo shoot of the "If I could, I would" campaign before the showing. It seems there are still not enough funds to do the photos on bulletin boards.

IV. Education Committee report by Margaret Biersack- distributed a written report on evaluations from last event of October 2 for the Breakfast Break for Breastfeeding. They were very positive.

Discussion of topics for next scheduled event on February 5, 2015. A previous idea was addressing women who are on Methadone. Would we need a larger topic on other drug use? There is a doctor with the specialty of Addictionist, Cory Waller, in private practice whom Lois Ditmar volunteered to approach about speaking when objectives are written by a sub committee that Jonelle will schedule. She will do a meeting request. Margaret consented to being on committee. We could possibly ask a neonatologist to speak. The committee needs to get this done before since we only have two meetings prior to Feb 5, November and January.

Another topic suggestion for future events is nursing baby beyond one year.

- Chris Bendekgey from KCHD / WIC reported on a meeting with the hospital representatives to make a plan to have WICs peer counselors make regular

visits to the hospital Breastfeeding support groups. The goal is to enhance communication between the hospital and WIC.

V. Nominations for steering committee Jonelle distributed the office descriptions and asked for nominations. Self-nominations are encouraged. Our goal is to be able to vote at the November 24th meeting. **Please submit all nominations to Jonelle by November 20.**

VI. Member Sharing

- Kelli Damstra shared some ideas she is working with a student on expanding the information of what is involved with the community services and breastfeeding support groups, including letting moms know to expect.
- Barb shared that Infant Team is working on 2nd phase of Community Assessment as part of Healthy Kent.. They are looking at data and making a strategic plan for the top goals. We brainstormed ways to survey the community such as asking breastfeeding support group attendees for our own Coalition's strategic plan.

- **Decisions**

Follow-Up Steps

| <i>Action</i> | <i>Responsible</i> | <i>Deadline</i> | <i>Follow-Up</i> |
|---|---------------------------------|-------------------------|--|
| Sub committee to meet on forming objectives and possible speakers for Feb 5 Breakfast Break | Jonelle will set up and invite. | Prior to Nov 24 meeting | Present options / status at Nov 24 meeting |
| Nominations for officers | All members | Nov 20 | Vote at Nov 24 meeting. |

Next Meeting: November 24, 2014 ; 11:30-1:00, Kent County Health Dept, Lake Superior Conference room

Agenda Items for next meeting:

- Present results of sub committee work for Feb 5 Breakfast Break and make decisions going forward.
- Vote on officer nominations

Minutes Recorded by: Mary Lynn Wesorick, secretary