

Boulder County Breastfeeding Coalition

March 5, 2015 Meeting Notes

In attendance: Linda Kopecky, Sarah Scully, Michelle Koross, Jen Rodehaver, Karen Frank, Melinda Morris, Victoria Lee, Lisa Kaplan, Vickie Marsh, Liza Patrick, Heather Enos, Diane Heronema, Heather Elkins, Lorrain Fairmont

Update on Workplace BFF Survey:

The workplace survey has been converted to Survey Monkey format (example pass around) and will be sent out to over 70 businesses in Boulder County. These were identified by Environmental Health as those who have participated in the Energy Smart program (i.e., "change-ready") and who are likely to employ low-income women. There will be an incentive for returning the survey: being placed in a drawing for a \$50 gift card. We discussed the need to monitor response rate, and as this is primarily to test the tool, we do not need to monitor the response rate closely. There was some discussion about forwarding this to other businesses, such as clinics or hospitals, but we concluded with the original plan, to test the tool with these 70+ businesses first, as the medical providers seem to be a special group that likely need a different approach.

Background on the Boulder County Breastfeeding Coalition (leading up to the grant discussion):

The BCBC started as a group of clinicians and breastfeeding support providers that eventually concentrated on networking and sharing resources, but over time attendance and focus waned. In the spring of 2014 an effort was made to revitalize the coalition that included a session reviewing information about when and why women quit breastfeeding as well as identifying successes and challenges around those windows of time, and then in May a BF Summit with a keynote speaker. In June of 2014 the BCBC came to a unanimous decision that the primary work should be with area businesses to foster breastfeeding friendly workplaces for employees AND their customers/clients. In the fall of 2014 BCPH was awarded a 1-3 year grant (140K each year) from the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment to do this work. A large part of the grant is a full-time project coordinator that will lead the coalition and the project, to be working under the Child Health Promotion Coordinator.

Job Description for the BFE Project Coordinator:

The job description has been drafted and this draft was passed around for review and comments. It was explained that the ideal person for this position is not necessarily a breastfeeding clinician, but rather someone with a strong community organizing and project management background. Additions to the job description included: a stated goal for the work of the project coordinator and a requirement for some type of financial or budget management experience. This position will be a one-year term employee of BCPH, with the option of renewing as the grant is renewed for up to two additional years, and the intention of eventually folding this position into the budget of Family Health. This employee will have assistance internally to BCPH on advanced responsibilities, such as statistical analysis.

A small group of BCBC members will be called upon to create interview questions and conducting the interviews. The plan is to post the position in April and conduct interviews in May.

Three other communities (2 individual counties and 1 group of counties) also received this grant, but the exact parameters of their award are unknown. There are goals within this grant (for years 2 and 3) around the project coordinator assisting other Colorado communities in their similar efforts.

Other updates:

- Sarah and Melinda (with the HEAL team) collected statistics on breastfeeding duration (chart distributed to the group). The most complete information is “breastfeeding at 6 months” where there is accurate Boulder County specific data. It was conducted through a random digit dialing survey. Other statistics are from WIC data, however this data was collected in one manner up to 2011, then in a different manner (using the “Compass” system), but in 2012 questions were changed. This complicates our ability to compare data from pre 2011 with 2011 data and then with data from 2012-today. Up to 2011 the data was reliable for “ever breastfed” type questions, however, it did not capture information about time of cessation or exclusivity.
- BCPH staff met with CSU where a study is being conducted with HR managers and employees on breastfeeding. However, no businesses with primarily low-income employees are part of the study.
- Karen and Linda will meet with the person at CU Boulder Women’s Resource Center (Amanda Linsenmeyer) who spearheaded creating a BF space to learn more about their story and lessons learned. They will report back at the next meeting.
- Foothills Hospital is ready for their final check to become Breastfeeding Friendly. This will make 2 out of 4 local hospitals who are BFF.

Next meeting:

April 2nd, 12-1:30pm at the Longmont Boston site conference room
 Our next BCBC meeting is on Thursday April 2, from noon to 1:30

We will be meeting in Longmont at the Boston Site (1030 Boston Ave. Longmont 80501) – [Map of Boston site](#)

Please note you can only get there from S. Pratt Parkway.

See Map below:

