



Boulder County Breastfeeding Coalition

Minutes

Date: Sept.28, 2017
 Time: 12-1:30 pm
 Location: Boulder

- **COALITION MEETING PURPOSE:** *The Boulder County Breastfeeding Coalition works to create a breastfeeding friendly community by supporting worksites, public venues, childcare providers, and lactation support professionals to meet the needs of breastfeeding mothers and babies.*

- **Facilitator:** Linda Kopecky **Minutes:** Sarah Scully

- **Attendees:** Linda Kopecky, Sarah Scully, Danielle Zaitzew, Carolyn Hobson, Kathleen Seckinger, Tori Lee and Bjorn, Shari Karmen, Rachel Morse (phone), Megan Noel (facilitator)

Minutes

Introductions

Agenda Item: Observations – overarching trends

Presenter: Linda K

Intended Outcome: Inform membership about trends in breastfeeding that are national, regional, local, within BCPH, and on members’ minds

- Discussion:**
- Comparison of national, Colorado, and BoCo WIC breastfeeding rates. While overall initiation rates are around 90%, lower income parents tend to cease breastfeeding before 3 months at much higher rates than the average population.
 - There is no captain of the BF ship; medical providers tend to lack time and skills to manage breastfeeding concerns and/so they tend to rely on other providers to manage problems
 - When there are lactation programs in place, BF rates tend to increase; but there is little consistency or universality in programs to incentivize or promote worksite lactation programs.
 - Within the BCPH Breastfeeding Friendly Environments activities, in the first 2 years we have worked with over 150 businesses to improve policies and practices, 27 businesses are designated as Breastfeeding Friendly, over 34 child care providers are so designated, and the work with medical offices is progressing.
 - BCBC members have identified these gaps: working with medical providers and skilled lactation professionals, mentoring CLCs and IBCLCs, outreach and visibility in the community, and moving the needle on Attitudes about supporting breastfeeding
 - The proposal for continued funding for Breastfeeding Friendly Environments has been submitted to the state; it is a regional configuration with public health agencies from the Denver metro region; the staffing for BCPH would change slightly; current activities continue with emphasis on providing technical assistance for the metro region and rural counties.

Agenda Item: Reflection – Impressions and feelings about these trends

Presenter: All

Intended Outcome: Gather impressions and feelings from BCBC members about trends or current activities

- Discussion:**
- What are the normal activities of local breastfeeding coalitions? Training and education, networking, community events/outreach
 - There is a big need for more peer support groups for all types of parents in more locations about the county
 - Transportation is a big issue

Agenda Item: Interpretation/ Decision- Identify activities for BCBC in coming year/s

Presenter: All

Intended Outcome: Using the above information, identify a few activities for the BCBC in the coming year or so that can be accomplished with or without continued BFE funding and address community needs

- Discussion:** Groups came up with several recommendations, and then they collectively chose to:
- Foster more and more varied peer support groups that start during the prenatal period
 - Celebrate World Breastfeeding Week (first week in August) by engaging coalition, businesses, child care providers, and community
 - Continue meeting and communicating via Basecamp
 - Consider potential policy change with all activities

Next Boulder County Breastfeeding Coalition Meetings:
 Thursday, October 19, 2017, Longmont (515 Coffman, room 326), 12-1:30
 Thursday, November 16, 2017, Boulder (Iris & Broadway, Baltic room), 12-1:30