

City of Bloomington Public Health Division Policies

POLICY TITLE:	<i>Breastfeeding-Friendly Health Department</i>
EFFECTIVE DATE (ORIG):	<i>12/12/16</i>
DATE REVIEWED/REVISED:	<i>04/01/19</i>
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PURPOSE STATEMENT:

BPH supports breastfeeding as the ideal method of feeding and nurturing infants. Research has shown that there is no better food than breast milk for the baby's first year of life. Breastfeeding provides many health, nutritional, economical, and emotional benefits to the mother and baby. There are also significant benefits to the community, workplace and the environment.

GUIDELINES:

This policy will ensure that BPH will meet the ten steps for a successful Breastfeeding Friendly (BFF) Health Department to support, actively promote and protect breastfeeding at the individual, community and systems levels.

PROCEDURE:

As a Breastfeeding Friendly Health Department, the Division will do the following:

1. Establish a designated Breastfeeding Friendly Health Department workgroup who will manage the tasks related to implementing and maintaining the recommended steps for a BFF Health department including developing a policy and conducting a periodic policy review and updates, developing staff orientation and continuing education, periodic community assessment, and initiate a breastfeeding coalition.
2. Develop and routinely review the BFF policy and updated as necessary with division staff.
3. Coordinate with other programs in the health department, private and public health care systems, and community organizations to establish breastfeeding as the “norm” in the community. This will be done by promoting the availability of resources within the community that provide individual and group support to all mothers; and identify the first point of referral for mothers experiencing common breastfeeding challenges. A list of resources within the community will be made available to health department staff and for the public on the website.
4. Collaborate with community partners to assure access to breastfeeding classes for prenatal women.
5. Educate the community on breastfeeding support and accommodation.
6. Encourage racially and ethnically diverse resources within the community to ensure every child has the opportunity to be breastfed.
7. Support mothers in initiating and maintaining breastfeeding up to 12 months and beyond.

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8. Encourage local public places to provide a breastfeeding friendly environment for families through community partners
9. Select businesses each year and provide worksite lactation support training.
10. Facilitate access to information and training for local childcare centers/providers/schools on how to support a breastfeeding mother.

To facilitate the maintenance of the BFF Health Department steps, all public health staff will do the following:

1. Receive & review information about the written policy on an annual basis and review state and federal laws & statutes supporting breastfeeding.
2. Provide information on community resources that support breastfeeding families during service encounters or at client request,
3. Assure materials created and distributed by BPH will be free of references to and images of infant formula and images of baby bottles. Purchased material will be assessed by approving supervisory staff so it provides informed decision-making when discussing infant feeding practices.
4. Receive orientation that includes review of the breastfeeding policy and program-specific practice information for supporting breastfeeding (including volunteers, contract staff, and students).

Implementation

Implementation of the policy will be in accordance with the BFF Health Department yearly work plan which is located in the Shared drive. Management Staff will communicate and implement the policy and guidelines within their respective teams.

Enforcement

The BPH Breastfeeding Friendly Committee shall be responsible for monitoring implementation of the policy and taking action as appropriate.

Evaluation and Policy Review

An assessment of policy implementation will be performed by the BFF Committee on a periodic basis. Assessment results and recommendations will be provided to the BFF Health Department Committee and the Health Department Administrator.

REFERENCES:

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MN Statutes 617.23, 145.905, 181.939 Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, H.R. 3590, 111th Congress (2010). Public Health Law Center at William Mitchell College of Law. *Legal Protections for Nursing Mothers in Minnesota: Nursing Mothers have Legal Protections in the Workplace and In Public*; May 2011. www.publichealthlawcenter.org accessed November 3, 2011. U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. *The Surgeon General's Call to Action to Support Breastfeeding*. Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office of the Surgeon General; 2011 <http://www.surgeongeneral.gov/topics/breastfeeding/index.html> accessed Aug 3, 2011; Bartick, M., and Reinhold, A. The burden of suboptimal breastfeeding in the United States: a pediatric cost analysis, *Pediatrics* 2010; 125:e1048-e1056, April 5, 2010. American Academy of Pediatrics, Section on Breastfeeding, Breastfeeding and the use of human milk, *Pediatrics* 115(2):496- 506, Feb 1, 2005. <http://pediatrics.aappublications.org/content/115/2/496.long> accessed Aug 3 2011 American Academy of Pediatrics, Work Group on Breastfeeding, Breastfeeding and the use of human milk, *Pediatrics* 100(6):1035-1039, December 1997. <http://pediatrics.aappublications.org/content/100/6/1035.full> accessed Aug 3, 2011 Ball, T., Wright, A. Health Care Costs of Formula-feeding in the first year of life, *Pediatrics* 1999; 103; 870-876, December 12, 2006. Chen, A., Rogan, W.J. Breastfeeding and the risk of post neonatal death in the United States, *Pediatrics* 2004; 113; e435. <http://pediatrics.aappublications.org/content/113/5/e435.full.html>