



Ohio Breastfeeding Alliance – *Human Milk for Human Health*

Meeting Minutes for September 20, 2017 Board Call beginning at 12 noon

Present: Michelle Catersino (R4 Rep), Lori Nester (Treasurer, R3 Rep), Ann Davis (LLOH Rep, Secretary), Stephanie Carroll (R7 Rep), Libby Svoboda (R5 Rep), Mary Burton (Vice Chair, R6 Rep), Debbi Smith-Moore (ABN Rep).

Not Present: Jennifer Foster (Chair, OLCA Rep), Terri Rutz (R1 Rep), Sylvia Ellison (R2 Rep).

Approval of Minutes: The minutes for August 9 2017 were approved by unanimous vote (Libby 1st motion, Stephanie 2nd) without corrections or additions, and will be posted to the website.

Treasurer Report: Lori reported we have a balance of \$4527.81 in the bank account, some of that is in restricted accounts. Transitional work is still going on. Lori shared that we still have the use of a law clinic volunteer at Ohio Northern University, so she is looking for questions that need to be answered that involve a legal basis, for governance or other questions for OBA.

Committee Task Force Reports

Childcare (Ann): no updates, still waiting to hear about ODH leadership on this topic within the breastfeeding workgroup. The next call for the Breastfeeding Workgroup is October 20th. The group discussed inviting others to participate in the workgroup, especially looking to sponsor anyone volunteering with ROSE or other minority support groups in Ohio. It was suggested that it might be possible for a ROSE representative to hold an at-large seat on the OBA board.

First Steps (Jennifer): no report

Nursing In Public (Ann): no updates.

Regional Reports/Local Coalitions/ Members at Large:

Region 1: no report

Region 2: no report

Region 3: no report

Region 4: (Michelle) Moms2B, a non-profit under the leadership of The Ohio State University that provides nutrition, education, prenatal care, lactation and human service support for pregnant moms living in neighborhoods at high risk of infant loss, is growing. The newest location is opening in the Hilltop neighborhood of Columbus. This program is unique in that it follows moms for a year and provides a variety of services through the same outlet. This program started as a research study and proved so successful at reducing preterm birth and infant loss that it has expanded into a multi-site program reaching hundreds of moms in the Columbus area each year. Now there are a total of 7 locations centered in neighborhoods with the highest rates of infant mortality in Franklin County.

I did my Capstone research on minority infant mortality in Franklin County and the need for expanded community-level access to bf education and support. So this is a topic I have followed for the past few years. I receive the monthly infant mortality reports for Franklin County. If you aren't familiar with the work on this issue, the City of Columbus [is a few years] introduced a

multi-faceted approach to reducing our minority IM rate (hovering between 2.5 and 3 times that of white rates). Programs have been introduced to train paid community health workers and volunteer safe sleep ambassadors, smoking cessation, progesterone, long-acting birth control and driving home the message of safe sleep in media campaigns. While BF was included in the recommendations of the Infant Mortality Taskforce, there is not a prominent campaign to improve bf rates. I mention all of this because in the IM report for July, there were no sleep-related deaths. 16 reported deaths for July and a current IM rate 8.3 for this year. The minority IM rate for this year is 15.6 deaths per 1000 births. So we have reduced the sleep-related deaths but our overall IM rate is climbing.

I recently reached out to Karen Gray, Director of the Child Fatality Review and Infant Safe Sleep with the Columbus Public Health. I wanted to find out if infant feeding data is tracked when monitoring IM rates. I was curious if it was being tracked, then perhaps it could be included in these monthly IM reports with the hope of improving awareness. Her response indicated that questions on infant feeding are very limited and do not offer a complete picture of infant feeding history. She provided the following links to the forms used in their investigations, [https://www.ncfrp.org/wp-content/uploads/NCRPCD- Docs/CDRPrintCase_v4-1.pdf](https://www.ncfrp.org/wp-content/uploads/NCRPCD-Docs/CDRPrintCase_v4-1.pdf) and [https://www.cdc.gov/sids/pdf/suidi-reporting- form.pdf](https://www.cdc.gov/sids/pdf/suidi-reporting-form.pdf)

These are national standardized forms that are being used. However, I feel the infant feeding data gathered could be more specific and that if we are able to see a connection between formula feeding and increased risk for infant death-then we have a better case for improving bf promotion.

Region 5: Libby shared a safe sleep poster from Ohio Department of Health.

Additional submitted report: The Cleveland Clinic Department of General and Community Pediatrics has a new Breastfeeding Champion Program.

Each office has identified a Pediatric provider (physician or NP) and a support staff person (nurse or MA) to serve as their breastfeeding champion. The champions each completed a 4-week self-directed curriculum, including Wellstart modules and selected on-line videos. Champions will also complete a 90-minute hands-on training session where they will learn about and practice basic lactation skills (e.g., teaching a mom the cross cradle hold and deep, asymmetric latch). The first session was held on Friday, July 28th at the Beachwood Family Health Center. It was very well received. The next session will be held on Friday, September 1st from 12-1:30 pm at the Richard E. Jacobs Health Center. The final training session will be held on Friday, October 6th from 12-1:30 pm at the Independence Family Health Center.

The Breastfeeding Champion program is lead by Dr. Tara S. Williams. Feel free to contact her at williat4@ccf.org with any questions.

Region 6: Akron Children's Hospital has a breastfeeding conference this week, the attendance is high. Tri-County Breastfeeding Coalition is also presenting a conference October 20th. Mary has obtained ODH posters about Baby-Friendly and also the Safe Sleep poster that Libby shared. The posters are also being distributed to WIC clinics. Lori shared they are looking for smaller versions to distribute to private clinic offices.

Region 7: no report

Appalachian Breastfeeding Network: has over 300 members now, will be presenting their first conference in October, 58 registered at this time. ABM received a grant to help create an after-hours helpline for breastfeeding support, and has put that tool into operation. They are receiving 2-3 calls on average per day, and have 2 people per night working the line.

LLL Ohio: no report

OLCA: Breastfest, March 16-17, 2018.

Policies and Procedures Manual: Ann has created a Google Docs folder for OBA PPM work, with several files that are resources as well as documents under construction. The link is <https://drive.google.com/open?id=0B9dtLtGXA7-7NGIGODRhWNETG8>

No new work was available at this time, but board members will be arranging for regional work meetings, in the Akron and Columbus area. Lori will share any questions we have involving legal issues with the ONU intern we have available again this year. Any contributions that board members can make toward reviewing material that gets updated at the link would be helpful, even if you cannot make a work session. One option might be to use a video-conferencing platform to accomplish work.

New Business: Ann asked if anyone is familiar with the video conference platform Zoom. Lori also mentioned possibly sharing the OLCA GoToMeeting account.

Lori reminded the group to help keep the online database updated, and to let people know about it so it can be used. Please spread the word to check it out and update any information possible on the database.

Ann shared with the group that she will be initiating a new report immediately following the board call to share a task list generated from the meeting, so that all can be aware of what tasks and work needs to be done between meetings. This hopefully will help to keep work on track.

The group discussed updating the NIP toolkit with information on breastfeeding and working from a recent USBC webinar. Ann shared that any OBA member can be set up to present the toolkit, and is also willing to travel to present the toolkit to any group.

Lori shared Activate Allen County materials for promoting breastfeeding with Libby, who is looking for materials to share in her coalition to start a similar initiative.

The group discussed taking on restarting an award program recognizing breastfeeding friendly businesses and employers that was started by ODH and has been discontinued.

Respectfully submitted by Ann Davis, Secretary, on October 19, 2017.