Building a Breastfeeding Support Program within a Wisconsin Tribal Health Setting

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Breastfeeding Efforts in Wisconsin

- Maternal and Child Health Program
- Wisconsin Breastfeeding Coalition
- Native Breastfeeding Coalition of Wisconsin
- Ho-Chunk Nation Breastfeeding Coalition
Maternal and Child Health Program

- Domain: Perinatal/Infant
- Measure: Percent of infants who are ever breastfed and percent of infants breastfed exclusively through six months
- Key Strategies:
  - Support workplaces to become breastfeeding friendly
  - Support child care sites to become breastfeeding friendly
  - Participate in Quality Improvement initiatives
  - Participating in the Children’s Healthy Weight CoIIN focusing on breastfeeding

Wisconsin Breastfeeding Coalition (WBC)

Mission:
The mission of the Wisconsin Breastfeeding Coalition is to improve the health of Wisconsin by working collaboratively to protect, promote, and support breastfeeding.

Vision:
In order to achieve optimal health, enhance child development, promote effective parenting, and make optimal use of resources, breastfeeding will be the norm for infant and early childhood feeding in Wisconsin.

Website: http://www.wibreastfeeding.com/
Native Breastfeeding Coalition of Wisconsin

- Breastfeeding Surveys at all Wisconsin Tribal sites
- *Baby, Baby* breastfeeding classes
- Certified Lactation Specialist training
- www.nativebreastfeedingwi.com

Native American Breastfeeding Data: National

Healthy People 2020 Data for AI/AN only vs. National Average (2011)
Native American Breastfeeding Data: State

- Great Lakes Intertribal Council (GLITC) Data vs. State Average

Ho-Chunk Nation Breastfeeding Coalition

Mission Statement
To support and promote a breastfeeding friendly environment within the Ho-Chunk Nation community and workplaces.

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Ho-Chunk Nation: People of the Big Voice

- At one time, Ho-Chunk occupied lands in Wisconsin, Iowa, South Dakota, Minnesota, Nebraska and Illinois.
- Throughout eleven removals, the Ho-Chunk continued to return to Wisconsin.
  - At one point, the Nation split, with part of the tribe returning to Wisconsin, and part moving to the reservation in Nebraska.
  - For about 360 years, the Nation was labeled as the Winnebago Tribe, a name given by the Sauk and Fox Tribes
  - In 1993, The Nation reclaimed their original name, Ho-Chunk Nation, “People of the Big Voice” with the Constitution Reform

Ho-Chunk Nation: People of the Big Voice

- Today, the Ho-Chunk do not have a reservation, but rather have reclaimed tribal lands
- Tribal Enrollment: Around 5,000 enrolled members of the Ho-Chunk Nation in Wisconsin
- Ho-Chunk Nation employs approximately 3,400 people
- The Ho-Chunk Nation Health Department covers 16 counties in its service district area, with 6 health office locations
HCN Breastfeeding Coalition Focus Areas

- Coalition Infrastructure
- Native Families
- Ho-Chunk Nation Worksites

Establishing the Coalition

Formalizing Coalition
- Meeting structure
- Membership with WBC, USBC
- Partnering with local coalitions

Members
- Nutrition and Community Health Nursing staff with CLC certification
- HCN champion: Dr. Amy DeLong, HCN member and family physician
- Health care team members
- WIC Peer Counselor
Native Families

- Patient-Centered, encourage mom to set breastfeeding goals
- Group Education: Partners in Parenting
- CLC services: Home and Office Visits
- Referral system with Tribal Clinic Providers
- Breastfeeding Supplies available through MCH Program
- Ho-Chunk Nation Maternal Child Health Facebook Page
- Assistance with obtaining breastpumps
- Ho-Chunk Nation Health Website

Ho-Chunk Nation Worksites

- Worksite assessments
- Establishing lactation rooms
- Policy for Breastfeeding employees
- Breastpumps for employees
- Planning and Zoning Committee
- Trainings with Supervisors
- Collaboration with Human Resources
Policy Change

Ho-Chunk Nation Employee Relations Act (ERA)

• Submitted request for ERA to include language supporting breastfeeding
• The revised ERA was released in September 2016 and included the following statement:

Lactation Rooms

• All gaming locations have designated lactation rooms
• Tribal Office Building has a dedicated lactation room
• Health Offices have designated lactation spaces
  • Clinic expansion included a lactation room
  • New health offices in 3 locations included space for lactation rooms
Applying an Equity Mirror

- Policy Change
- Partnerships
- Moving to empowerment

Preserving Our Ho-Chunk Traditions:
Video Clip
Building a Breastfeeding Support Program with a Wisconsin Tribal Health Setting

Ho-Chunk Nation Benefits of Breastfeeding: Video Clip

Ho-Chunk Nation Benefits of Breastfeeding: Video Clip
Questions?

Resources

