

POLICY/PROCEDURE BROWN COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH

Origin Date: 2/5/2016

Board Approval Date: 4/26/2016

Section: Family Health

Title: Breastfeeding

Purpose:

Brown County Public Health will promote breastfeeding to the community and clients of Brown County Public Health as the standard for optimal infant nutrition and development.

Policy/Procedure:

Public health staff, with representation from various program areas, will serve on the Brown County Public Health Breastfeeding Work Group. The work group will assess, implement, and lead the breastfeeding friendly practice within the department.

1. All staff providing care and/or education for the mother-baby dyad will become familiar with the breastfeeding policy and will be responsible for acquiring the skills and the knowledge necessary to support policy implementation including maternal education, community resource awareness, and legal protections for nursing mothers, including Federal and Minnesota State Statutes.
2. Brown County Public Health will support continuing education as merited to keep staff current with best practices.
3. The Breastfeeding Work Group will review and update resources for client education, including racially and ethnically diverse resources within the community.
4. Brown County Public Health will provide content expertise and technical assistance to community partners to promote and support breastfeeding as the “norm” in the community.
5. Expectant mothers will receive education about the benefits of breastfeeding and how to prepare to breastfeed at WIC appointments and pre-natal visits.
6. Mothers will be offered lactation support services after their baby is born through home visits, telephone consultation, WIC appointments, and referral to other agencies in the community as needed.
7. Brown County Public Health will provide a lactation room for clients, visitors and staff in accordance with Minnesota State Statutes.