Ohio Breastfeeding Alliance – Human Milk for Human Health

Meeting Minutes for June 26, 2019, Virtual/Phone General Meeting

Members: Lisa Davidson, Latha Srinivasan, Heather Kristofzski, Christine Ellerbrock, unidentified caller from Sunrise Center WIC, Dayton OH, unidentified caller from Madison County WIC, OH.
Leadership Board: Jennifer Foster (Chair, OLCA Rep), Lori Nester (Treasurer, R3 Rep), Ann Davis (Secretary), Mary Burton (R6 Rep), Libby Svoboda (R5 Rep).

OBA Chair Jennifer Foster opened the meeting with a welcome to all attending online or via phone.

Ann and Lori shared their experiences at the 2019 USBC National Breastfeeding Coalitions Convening, which they attended, along with Andrea Schlueter (Region 2 Rep) and Stephanie Carroll (Appalachian Breastfeeding Network Rep) June 12-15. The library of presentations and meetings at the NBCC can be found at: http://www.usbreastfeeding.org/p/do/si/topic=870.

Ann shared information on upcoming USBC Board of Director elections, which OBA will participate in as a USBC Member for the first time. Candidates for the ballot can be seen at: http://www.usbreastfeeding.org/page/board-candidate-bios. OBA will need to return a ballot to USBC before August 19, 2019. Member input on candidates is encouraged and welcome; send comments to info@ohiobreastfeedingalliance.org with the subject “USBC election.”

Ann gave a report from the Childcare project call that took place Wednesday morning. This is a group working with Ohio Department of Health on a recognition program for child care centers and businesses to show they are breastfeeding friendly. There were no announced changes in staff or project leads at ODH. The group continues to review drafts of the model breastfeeding policy for child care businesses, a draft application and scoring chart, a draft information sheet modeled on one from Kansas Breastfeeding Coalition, a draft for the award poster, and guidelines for applying and redesignation. The recognition program is not expected to go live until 2020.

Jennifer and Lori shared information on a possible opportunity for OBA to participate in a grant and project on workplace breastfeeding support. More information on this will be shared as communication advances with the involved agencies. Latha expressed interest in participating in this project, and the group expressed support for coalescing interested persons into a workplace support committee to be in place and ready if the project moves forward. Anyone interested in serving on this workplace support committee, along with Latha, should contact OBA at info@ohiobreastfeedingalliance.org. Laura asked if OBA can create a ‘call for action’ script for Regional Representatives to use for recruiting possible members of this committee. Jennifer said she would spearhead this effort, and share that information to the Regional Reps and Board members.

Libby reported from Region 5 that a director from one of the museums they presented our Nursing in Public Toolkit to last year contacted them for assistance in setting up a pumping space for visitors.
Another General Meeting may be set to coincide with the Ohio WIC meeting taking place towards the end of August, possibly August 27th. Members will be notified once the information is set. The Leadership Board July call is anticipated to be rescheduled due to vacations; board members will receive information regarding this.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:16 pm; thanks to all who attended.