**Breastfeeding Coalition of Calhoun County**

**Meeting Notes**

**March 7, 2017, 2:00 – 4:00 pm**

**WIC**

Attendees: Diana Buist, Sue Gehrman, Cheryl Hinds, Jamie Hyde, Barbie Krzyzanski, Heather Prusi-Wilson, Elizabeth Schultheiss, Robin Twiest, Jennifer VanValkenburg.

Guests: Shannon McKenney Shubert, Michigan Breastfeeding Network & Marji Cyrul, State Breastfeeding Coordinator

1. **Welcome and Introductions**
2. **Review January 2017 Minutes**

* Group approved January meeting minutes.
* Meeting minutes provided for the group by RHA moving forward will be less formal and placed in a Notes format.

1. **Michigan Breastfeeding Network**

Shannon McKenney Shubert provided an overview of the MIBN and the Network’s initiatives. Discussion occurred regarding the BFCCC’s alignment with the MIBFN’s initiatives. Group encouraged to continue using materials, information and resources provided by MIBFN. MIBFN website contains a lot of tools and information that can be used by the Coalition to advance its work and partnerships.

* 1. Breastfeeding Anytime, Anywhere. A social media campaign to encourage and support breastfeeding women to be able to breastfeed anytime and anywhere.
  2. 3-10 Connect. Initiative that influences Steps #3 & #10 of the 10 Steps to Successful Breastfeeding. Baby-Friendly hospitals and birthing facilities must adhere to the Ten Steps to receive and retain a Baby-Friendly designation.
     1. Step 3: Inform all pregnant women about the benefits and management of breastfeeding.
     2. Step 10: Foster the establishment of breastfeeding support groups and refer mothers to them on discharge from the hospital or birth center.

MIBFN was invited to submit a grant through WKKF to expand this initiative in Calhoun County. More information to come, if approved

* 1. Workplace initiative. Tools available on the website.

1. **Sistah to Sistah Breastfeeding Club Update**
   1. January meeting – 3 attendees
   2. February – 0 attendees, but this was expected as 2 attendees gave birth.
   3. So far, 2 regular attendees are exclusively breastfeeding & 1 is partially breastfeeding.
   4. Facilitators may move meetings to a park outside in warmer weather. Playground equipment would provide a space for children to play while mothers meet. Group thought this was a great idea.
   5. Updated flyers passed out to members.
2. **WorkGroups**
   1. **BFCCC Worksite Initiative** 
      * Workplan & Activities reviewed by group. Survey has been developed and will be sent out to employers through the Chamber email system.
      * Lunch-N-Learn for area employers through the Chamber is scheduled to take place May 3, 2017 at 12:00 in the Loft. Promotional piece handed out to group. Sue Gehrman and Erika Gothberg will facilitate the session. Presentation is under development.

* 1. **Breastfeeding Awareness Month**
* Barbie & Cheryl will be meeting soon to begin confirming Big Latch On details and discuss items to purchase for not only BF Awareness month activities, but for use at other events as well.
* Calhoun County Big Latch On will be August 5th at 10:30 at McCamly Park.
  1. **Certified Lactation Counselor Training**: Anticipated to be held in Battle Creek spring 2018, potentially the week of March 19th. Training is 5 days long from 8:15-4:30. With a minimum of 20 participants, the Coalition would receive 3 free registrations. If less than 20 participants a month in advance of the scheduled date, the training would be cancelled.

1. **Other** 
   1. **Coalition Retreat**,facilitated by Tina Cardarelli. Confirmed for June 6th, 9-3:00 pm. Location TBA.
   2. MIBFN Regional Coalition Meeting to be held in Battle Creek on September 12th.
2. **Adjourn**

**Next meeting:**

**May 2, 2017**

**2-4:00**

**WIC**

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