Breastfeeding Legislation and Policy Toolkit: Updates and Beyond

Power Tools for Coalitions
Webinar Series
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Today’s Topic

Breastfeeding Legislation and Policy Toolkit: Updates and Beyond
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Outline of Today’s Session

- Policy Updates
  - Federal Budget | Dietary Guidelines for Americans | Healthy People 2030
  - Current Legislation
  - What’s on the horizon?
- Breastfeeding Legislation and Policy Toolkit
- Q&A
- USBC Updates

Federal Budget

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Health Reform, Tax Reform

If it were not for the ACA requirements for assistance with breastfeeding, I would not be where I am today. I was a first time mom who thought I was more than prepared to breastfeed without any issues. Unfortunately after birth, it was not the dream that I had hoped it would be. My daughter ended up in the NICU and I was given little instruction on what to do with breastfeeding once my supply was dwindled away to nothing. I had a wonderful case manager with [my insurance company], who actually informed me about the ACA and breastfeeding benefits. She hooked me up with a pump and a lactation consultant (which boy did I need). I worked with the IBCLC through every issue and needed every one of the six visits [my plan allowed]. Without them, I would not be breastfeeding both my daughter and my son! It pains me to think that these benefits may not be available for my son, and it scares me about what will come of the health of our country if we continue on without breastfeeding being supported.

— Autumn, Nevada

YOUR VOICE IS NEEDED!

- WIC
- AMCHP
- CDC
- CHN Basic Needs
Protect ACA Breastfeeding Supports

- Funding for CDC Breastfeeding Initiatives, especially Maternity Care Practice Improvement
- Health Plan Coverage of Breastfeeding Counseling, Education, Equipment & Supplies
- "Break Time for Nursing Mothers" (Workplace Support) Provision

Dietary Guidelines for Americans
Healthy People 2030

What’s on the horizon?
Supporting Working Moms Act

I was able to meet my goal of exclusively pumping for both my daughters thanks to a supportive work environment. Even though my company is a small business, which does not qualify for the ACA provision, they still created a private space for me to use and allowed me to take ample time to pump. I was even able to donate to a milk bank thanks to being given the time I needed. The ACA provision helped guide my company on how to prepare a space for myself and future coworker mothers.

— Leigh, Alabama

FAMILY Act

I believe my twelve-week maternity leave was crucial to my breastfeeding success. My employer provided six weeks paid at 100%, then I continued from six more unpaid from my PTO under FMLA. There is such a learning process that happens with breastfeeding and it can take time to get things off to the best start. I was able to relax and know that I would have three precious months with my baby for bonding before having to worry about transitioning to the demands of my career while maintaining my most important role as a breastfeeding mom.

— Jennifer, Texas
Pregnant Workers Fairness Act

I worked at a local retail store for a few years before becoming pregnant with my son. The position that I was working required me to do a lot of heavy lifting and climbing ladders. I had repeatedly asked the managers if they could switch me to another position....They told me I could do my job or quit....After delivery and maternity leave I came back to work and was told they had to fill my position during leave and I had no choice but to take a two-day-a-week part-time position that they had. I talked to the manager and said I would need a place to pump. He told me that I could pump in the bathroom. I felt that breastfeeding was more important than working there two days a week and getting treated badly, so I quit.

—Anonymous, Virginia

Healthy Families Act

As a teacher in an urban, high poverty school district, it was important for me to be at my best for my students. As a new mom, it was important for me to be at my best for my baby. One of the struggles I, and many other working parents, face is how to balance the demands of our jobs and the needs of our families. HR for my district used my "sick" days and my "personal" days to give me a paid maternity leave. This meant that when my baby got sick, I had to take unpaid time off and, if I was sick, I had to keep working. I was able to keep working because my coworkers helped me find some time and a closet in which to pump during the school day. It was hard, but I was one of the lucky ones. Many teachers in other schools don't get support at all. By the end of the school year, I was exhausted and wound up leaving teaching.

—Alyssa, Pennsylvania
FAM Act

I received an opportunity for an in person interview that required me to be away from my 5 month old. When I asked an airport employee about a place to express milk, she said “we have a bathroom right over there.” I knew that wasn’t an option I wanted to exercise as there is nothing appealing about standing in a room with heavy foot traffic and all the bacteria laden surfaces. I walked all over the terminal, that was quite full at this time and finally I realized the most secluded spot I could find was wedged behind a trash can, where I found an outlet, right next to the entrance of the men’s restroom. I really wish there were clean, private spaces available for working moms who have to travel.

— Jessica, North Carolina

Fairness for Breastfeeding Mothers Act

I went back to work after maternity leave as a pumping mom. My office didn’t have pumping space available and because of the ACA requirement I felt totally comfortable telling my employer that I would need a space when I came back from leave. I work for the government, so many of the other buildings I go to for work have created official lactation rooms since the ACA was passed. That made it much easier for me to go to different locations as part of my work and continue to pump. The ACA requirement normalized pumping in my office environment and made it so that when I had to decline meetings or ask for accommodations to pump, those around me saw it as my right and not a favor I was asking for. All of this allowed me to pump for my daughter until she was a year without pumping being a major burden or obstacle to my job performance.

— Anonymous, Washington, DC
Federal Legislation & Policy Update
Breastfeeding Legislation and Policy Toolkit: Updates and Beyond

CAPACITY BUILDING OPPORTUNITIES

Presenter

Lynette Anwulika Anigbo
Development & Evaluation Coordinator
A DOWNLOADABLE BOOKLET
+ TWO 4-WEEK PROGRAMS


Release Date: April 20, 2018

A downloadable guide to helping you understand the possibilities of each social media platform and get to the heart of what your organization needs in terms of a social media presence.
TWO 4-WEEK PROGRAMS

Program #1: Newsletters with Mailchimp
- Week 1: Who, What, When, Why?
- Week 2: Setting up effective Systems?
- Week 3: Plug and Chug: Creating Email Templates in MailChimp
- Week 4: Finding your Key Performance Indicators (KPI’s)

Program #2: Managing Twitter with Hootsuite
- Week 1: Systems for Managing Data
- Week 2: Setting Up your Hootsuite Account
- Week 3: Scheduling 101
- Week 4: Customizing your dashboard

Presenter

Denae Schmidt
Member Relations & Operations Manager
Coalition Membership!!

USBC Bylaws Changes approved by 2/3 majority vote from the voting members of the USBC:

- Amendment to expand membership categories to include coalitions and community based organizations
- Developing easy, accessible process for this transition
- Coalition Networking Calls beginning in April
- Tribal Coalition networking calls beginning May

2018 NBCC

Eighth National Breastfeeding Coalitions Convening
Advancing Public Health Through An Equity-Centered Breastfeeding Movement
AUGUST 4-5, 2018 • ATLANTA, GA

- Membership Meeting, Aug 3
- NBCC Aug 4 and 5
- Advocacy Training Aug 5
- Apply for Tribal Trailblazer Awards!
- Apply for Emerging Leader Awards!
Thank you!

Reflections on Today’s Meeting

Checking in with Self and Others...