

**Local agency Breastfeeding Coordinators Meeting Summary
January 20, 2023**

12:30-1:00pm

Time	Topic	Actions/Outcome	Lead
12:30pm-12:35pm	Welcome		ML/LG
12:35pm-12:50pm	Improving BF support in WIC	<p>1.) Discuss any conversations you've had with colleagues about referring breastfeeding participants for more support, i.e., PA's to peers or Nutritionists, peers yielding to Nutrition staff and/or DBE</p> <p>Not all agencies had time to discuss referral process or schedule adjustments since last meeting. Maggie (NH) commented that she is proud of her PA staff as they are now timely referring participants that call about "formula requests" to a Nutritionist to assess for breastfeeding concerns. Most agencies have some process for referring to the peer and/or the BF Coordinator for BF issues- we will discuss this in more detail or confirm actual established protocols at future meetings. A few agencies use email to communicate between peer team about participants that require follow-up.</p> <p>Lauren (Optimus) asked if there could be more funding for all locations to have peer programs. Currently, the peer counseling funding is set for 2022 and we will learn about 2023 funds shortly. Lori discussed how programs with existing peer programs can submit budget requests/revisions. In the context of scheduling for follow-ups we are not focused on peer availability, but ability for Nutritionists, Nutritionists with CLC and IBCLC to be</p>	All

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able to solve complex breastfeeding issues with participants. Of course, peers can help implement plans or yield more complex issues to Nutritionists or DBEs (CLC/IBCLC).

2.) Thoughts about schedule adjustments to accommodate BF f/u that are not tied to a benefit appointment.

Most agencies have been employing the walk-in column to handle urgent breastfeeding follow-up visits. Bridgeport/Stamford is considering using Friday afternoons (currently this is blocked in schedule) to see these type of priority appointments and/or ht/wt clinics. DKH reviews the schedule to see if more low risk participants can be moved to WIC Smart or phone f/up appt to allow for Bianca to cover BF follow-ups, East Hartford and Bristol/NB/Torrington use the walk-in column for BF follow-ups, Middletown is considering adding a BF Support column for this purpose and in Meriden, Dana can adjust the schedule to accommodate and BF follow-up needed in most cases.

Thanks to all for contributing to the discussion, in future meetings we would like to continue the conversation to consider intentionally adding appts to the daily schedule- for example 1-am and 1-pm daily, so that there is an understanding that a BF follow-up visit- not connected to a benefit issuance- is part of WIC Breastfeeding Support. By incorporating into the schedule

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<p>12:50-1:00pm</p>	<p>In person meeting, materials ordering</p>	<p>intentionally, it gives value and importance to this aspect of WIC services.</p> <p>Confirmed in-person May meeting, Meriden Teen Room- 12:00-3pm. More details to come.</p> <p>We are considering ordering the Baby gooroo pocket guide for local agencies Breastfeeding: Ready. Set. Go! Pocket Guide (babygooroo.com) If anyone has other printed materials that they would like us to consider email Lori and me. We also may order some books for an incentive at 6 months and 12 months. More to come on this. At the next in person meeting (March), excess breastfeeding materials will be available for agencies to take.</p> <p>Question about LLL conference State sponsorship for local attendance on April 27th and May 4th (Virtual) 12pm-5pm.</p> <p>Considering local agencies' concerns about the required WIC BF Curriculum training and impact on WIC schedules, we are not planning to sponsor local staff LLL attendance for 2023.</p> <p>Priority for staff training should be given to the WIC Breastfeeding Curriculum that will be offered in the Spring and Fall. Dates conflict with Level 3 curriculum (Nutritionists/CLC and IBCLC). It is expected that staff that did not complete Level 3 in the Fall 2022,</p>	<p>All</p>
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		<p>complete in Spring 2023. Local agencies can choose to send staff on their own, but considering that local agencies have concerns with the required WIC curriculum impacting schedules, we would anticipate the same issues for an optional conference. Guidance for LLL registration for WIC staff for local agency payment will be forwarded to directors shortly.</p>	
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We adjusted our formal meeting time to 30 minutes considering influx of certification requests. However, local agencies should continue to allot time for breastfeeding related projects as described in the BF Coordinators role document. Please plan schedules and budgets accordingly. If we cancel a meeting, please use the scheduled meeting time work on breastfeeding coordinator related duties.

2023

We are planning to have 30-minute meetings in 2023. Meetings for 2023 to be mostly virtual but will consider in person meetings 2x/year pending space/location options.

Friday, January 20th	12:30-1:00pm	Teams Meeting
Friday, February 17th	12:30-1:00pm	Teams Meeting
Friday, March 17th	12:30-1:00pm	Teams Meeting
Friday, April 21st	12:30-1:00pm	Teams Meeting
Friday, May 19th	12:30-3:00pm	In-person Meriden Health Department Teen Room, second floor.

Please make schedule adjustments for WIC Breastfeeding Curriculum training in Spring/Fall 2023. Sent out via email.