



Kansas
Breastfeeding
Coalition, Inc.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Kansas Breastfeeding Coalition Awards Grants to Support Breastfeeding in Kansas

MANHATTAN, Kan., May 16, 2019 – With a goal of supporting breastfeeding families throughout Kansas, six local breastfeeding coalitions received funding totaling approximately \$5,000 from the Kansas Breastfeeding Coalition (KBC) Mini-Grant Initiative.

The following local breastfeeding coalition projects received funding from the KBC:

- African-American Breastfeeding Coalition of Wyandotte County - Taking Community Service to the Community
- Ellis County Breastfeeding Coalition - In My Mother's Arms: Breastfeeding Photography Exhibit
- Johnson County Breastfeeding Coalition - Community Awareness of Johnson County Breastfeeding Coalition
- Lactation Advocates Teaching Community Health (LATCH) - Lyon County William Allen White Auditorium Lactation Room
- Wichita Area Breastfeeding Coalition - Wichita: Enhancing Community Breastfeeding Support for Black Mothers
- Wyandotte County Breastfeeding Coalition - Mom & Baby Health Fair 2019

Breastfeeding provides immediate and lifelong nutrition and health benefits for mother and child, as well as larger economic, environmental and social benefits to families and communities. It is estimated suboptimal breastfeeding rates are costing Kansas \$26 million each year in medical costs alone.

“Breastfeeding at the earliest stages of life has been shown to have a lifetime of positive results,” said Dr. Lisette Jacobson, Chair of the KBC Board of Directors. “Nearly 90% of families choose to breastfeed, at least at the beginning. Working with these local coalitions, we are changing the culture and building communities where families can be supported in their decision to breastfeed.”

If Kansas is to realize the long-term benefits of breastfeeding, communities need to work together. All grantees will work in coordination with health care systems, health care providers, public health professionals and community efforts.

ABOUT THE KANSAS BREASTFEEDING COALITION

The Kansas Breastfeeding Coalition (KBC) is a state-wide nonprofit organization. With a mission to improve the health and well-being of Kansans by working collaboratively to promote, protect and support breastfeeding, KBC envisions a state where breastfeeding is normal and supported. To achieve this, KBC focuses its work on improving policies, systems and environments to remove barriers to breastfeeding.

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Mission To improve the health and well-being of Kansans by working collaboratively to promote, protect and support breastfeeding.
Vision Breastfeeding is normal and supported throughout Kansas.

If you'd like more information about this topic or would like to schedule an interview with Brenda Bandy, KBC Executive Director, call (785) 477-4666 or email bbandy@ksbreastfeeding.org .