

Support for Human/Breast Milk in Minnesota Child Care Centers

Anoka County Public Health, in partnership with the Minnesota Breastfeeding Coalition, is interested in exploring ways to support infant and children's access to human milk in licensed child care centers for as long as possible through support to caregivers and child care center staff. For the purposes of this survey, we use the term human milk to describe milk that is expressed for infants and children through breastfeeding or provided in a container for the infant or child to consume.

This short 10 minute survey is anonymous and voluntary. Your responses are not tied to any benefits you may be receiving and there are no consequences for participating or choosing not to participate. Your responses will be used to identify ways in which Anoka County Public Health, the Minnesota Breastfeeding Coalition and our partners can assist caregivers and licensed child care center staff with support and resources to meet the needs of the families they care for around breastfeeding/lactation support.

Please answer the following questions about your child care center. Required and optional questions are noted accordingly. This survey is intended to be completed by owners, managers, or persons with direct oversight of the operations of licensed child care centers.

Thank you for your participation. Your feedback is greatly appreciated!

1. How many children are currently enrolled for each age group?

Infant	<input type="text"/>
Toddler	<input type="text"/>
Preschool	<input type="text"/>

2. Which health consultant do you use?

- MN Childcare Health Consultants
- Health Consultants for Child Care
- An individual health consultant
- I do not know

* 3. Does your center have a space that can be used to breastfeed or pump?

- Yes, for staff only
- yes, for staff and parents
- No

4. Which of the following is used as a space to breastfeed or pump? (check all that apply)

- A private or semi-private room (e.g. an office)
- An infant/nursery room
- Any classroom
- Other

5. If you answered Other to question 4, please describe the environment in your center that is used to breastfed or pump, including any differences in the environment for staff and parents if that is the case for your center.

6. How else do you try to create a supportive environment for breastfeeding and pumping? (check all that apply)

- books for children
- toys
- images used in the center
- Other (please specify)

7. Which of the following best describes your center's use of infant feeding plans/schedules, which for the purpose of this survey, is something that has been created with input by both the center staff and family/caregivers?

- Rarely or Never
- Only for children with special diets
- Most of the time, but not for all children
- All of the time for all children
- Not applicable (my center does not provide care for infants)

8. Which of the following best describes training for infant staff at your center on breastfeeding promotion and support (i.e., benefits of breastfeeding, proper labeling, storage, thawing and handling of human/breast milk)?

- Rarely or None
- Some infant staff have received training, but not in the last 3 years
- All infant staff have received training, but it is not current (in the last 3 years)
- Some infant staff have received training (or refresher) on a regular basis, at least every 3 years
- All infant staff have received training (or a refresher) on a regular basis, at least every 3 years
- Not applicable (my center does not provide care for infants)

9. Human/breast milk is currently served in the following rooms at your center.

- Only in infant rooms
- Infant and toddler rooms
- Allowed in all rooms

10. If serving human/breast milk is currently ONLY ALLOWED IN INFANT ROOMS, which of the following best describes why? Please check all that apply.

- My health consultant recommended it
- I am worried I would get reported to the Department of Human Services if a child consumed breast/human milk for another child.
- Human/breast milk poses a risk if it is spilled.
- No parent has requested human/breast milk to be served in the toddler room.
- I don't have enough staff to ensure a safe food environment
- No applicable

11. Please share any additional information about why human/breast milk is not allowed in the toddler rooms.

12. Would anything support your decision to allow human/breast milk in the toddler rooms? Please check all that apply.

- A parent request
- Multiple parent requests
- Learning from other centers that allow human/breast milk in the toddler room
- A different recommendation from my health consultant
- A better/clearer understanding of the rules and regulations around human/breast milk in a child care setting.
- Nothing
- Not applicable (my center does not have a toddler room)

Other (please specify)

13. What other resources would help you in serving human/breast milk at your child care center?

14. Do you provide educational materials and information about infant feeding for prospective and/or enrolled families at your child care center?

- No materials are available
- Materials are only made available when asked
- All enrolled families with infants or who are expecting are made aware of these resources
- All enrolled AND prospective families are made aware of these resources

15. How do you communicate your human/breast milk procedures to staff at your center?

- No written policy; practices are not communicated to staff
- No written policy; practices are generally communicated to staff verbally
- Written policy is provided to staff only in written form
- Written policy is generally communicated to staff both in writing and verbally

16. How do you communicate your human/breast milk procedures to current and prospective families?

- No written policy; practices are not communicated to families
- No written policy; practices are generally communicated to families verbally
- Written policy is provided to families only in written form
- Written policy is generally communicated to families both in writing and verbally

17. When thinking about providing a supportive environment for breastfeeding families in your child care setting, what are some resources/education opportunities you would find helpful? Please try to be as specific as possible, this will help to see what the needs are for future virtual training opportunities and resource sharing.

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Thank you for your responses! Your input will be used to help inform how the Anoka County Public Health Department and Minnesota Breastfeeding Coalition can support licensed child care centers in Anoka County with breastfeeding and infant and children's access to human milk. The results of this survey will be shared with you after all responses have been collected and analyzed.

If you have any questions or are interested in more information about becoming a Breastfeeding Friendly Childcare, please contact Gretchen.etzler@co.anoka.mn.us.