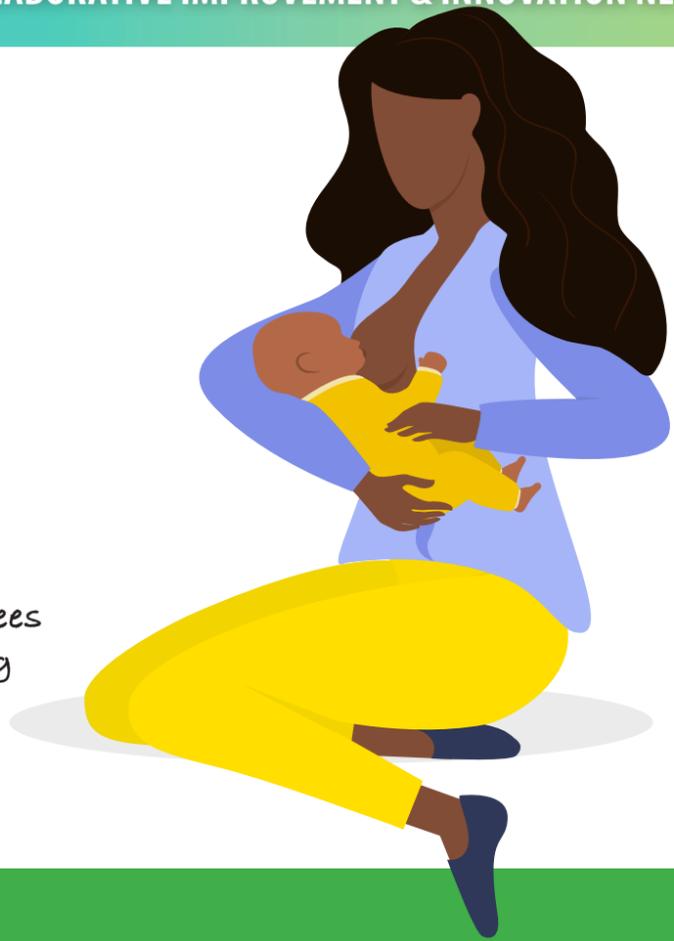


# LOUISIANA CoIIN

## Breastfeeding Workstream

### GOAL:

Build the capacity of and expand the Louisiana Workplace Breastfeeding Support program to create worksite cultures statewide that support employees who choose to breastfeed after returning to work through organizational policy and practice change.



Louisiana has low breastfeeding rates, and lack of workplace support for lactating employees is a contributing factor. Louisiana's CoIIN team sought to build partnerships and expand outreach through the formation of a statewide workgroup comprised of various stakeholders, employers and employees. Working closely together, they were able to expand policy and practice change, creating more breastfeeding-friendly workplace environments.

### PARTICIPANTS / PARTNERS

- Community breastfeeding supporters for persons of color (Café au Lait, Community Birth Companion)
- WIC
- Department of Labor
- Healthy Start
- Louisiana Breastfeeding Coalition
- Louisiana Occupation Nurses Association
- Louisiana Workforce Commission
- Title V
- University Board of Regents
- Well Ahead Louisiana
- Large and small employer representatives
- Birthing Hospital representative (also large employer)
- Local University Representative

### TITLE V PROGRAM CONNECTION

- **Two** Title V Staffers
- **State Team Lead** is part of Title V

“Making healthy choices, easy choices.”



### METHODOLOGY

- Convened **new statewide workplace group** with select state agencies and state-level organizations, community organizations, businesses, and employees
- Re-examined the designation and outreach of the group and recalibrated the internal working process **in order to better serve employees**
- Addressed **equity** by ensuring women from the community were at the table to share their experiences

### RESULTS

- Established a diverse **Lactation Accommodations Statewide Work Group** to identify system level solutions
- Strengthened coordination and collaboration with LA Well-Ahead, a workplace wellness designation program, to include **breastfeeding as a wellness benchmark**
- Established **partnerships** with organizations that influence employer practice and policy
- Increased Breastfeeding Friendly Workplace Champion designations from **274** (January 2018) to **363** (October 2020)
- Increased Breastfeeding Friendly Workplace designations from **125** (January 2018) to **160** (October 2020)
- **61,300** women of childbearing age are now covered by designated workplaces
- Increased outreach through presentations at **5 Louisiana conferences**

