



555 Towner St., Ypsilanti, MI 48198
Phone: (734) 544-6700
<http://publichealth.ewashtenaw.org>

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: July 18, 2011

Contact: Keleigh Lee Washtenaw County Breastfeeding Coalition Co-Chair
(734) 218-0348
kelmlee@gmail.com

WORKPLACE LACTATION SUPPORT AWARDS 2011 *Annual Award Honors Breastfeeding-Friendly Businesses*

YPSILANTI, MI, – The Washtenaw County Breastfeeding Coalition (WCBC) is now accepting applications for the 2011 Workplace Lactation Support Awards. Applications for recognition are accepted through August 5th. An awards ceremony and Breastfeeding Awareness Month Celebration is scheduled for August 12th at the Washtenaw County Public Health Department. Please visit www.washtenawbfcoalition.org for a nomination application.

“We’ve been very proud of the local businesses honored through these awards. The support they’ve established for working moms has made a positive difference in the health of moms and their babies. We look forward to highlighting this year’s honorees,” says Monique Reeves, MD, MPH, Medical Director for Washtenaw County Public Health.

The Coalition presents annual awards to honor Washtenaw County businesses with breastfeeding-friendly policies and worksite lactation support. If you know of any businesses deserving of recognition, encourage them to apply. Awards are given in two categories: Employee Support and Customer Support. The Coalition recognizes companies who protect and promote breastfeeding by supporting their employees' need to express milk during work hours and by supporting their breastfeeding customers. Some companies may be eligible for both types of awards. Awards will go to employers who have significantly contributed to promoting and supporting breastfeeding as a vital part of the health and development of children and their families throughout our community. This year marks the fourth year of the awards. Past winners can be viewed on the [Coalition's website](#).

If a local business has not yet set up a lactation support program, the Coalition has experienced and knowledgeable Workplace Lactation Specialists available to advise them on establishing a tailored program.

Anyone seeking information on breastfeeding or seeking help with workplace lactation support is encouraged to contact Gayathri Akella, MS, RD, CLE, IBCLC, Washtenaw County Breastfeeding Coordinator and WCBC Co-Chair at (734) 544-6794 or akellag@ewashtenaw.org and Keleigh Lee, WCBC Co-Chair at (734) 218-0348 or kelmlee@gmail.com.

Washtenaw County Public Health promotes health and works to prevent disease or injury in our community. Visit us online at <http://publichealth.ewashtenaw.org>.

###