Happy New Year!

Welcome to the winter 2018 edition of Mothers' Milk Bank (MMB) Donation & Outreach Centers and Sites newsletter! MMB hopes to keep you informed and engaged in your participation as a DOC with this quarterly update featuring news, spotlights, tips and more!

A Look Back at 2017

YOU play a critical role in our mission of babies' health through Mothers' Milk Bank (MMB) and your important work with your own milk Donation and Outreach Center. Mothers' Milk Bank could not have helped babies and their families this past year without you - thank you!

2017 was a phenomenal year for MMB! Once again, we dispensed more milk to fragile infants in 26 states than any other nonprofit donor human milk bank. In 2017, an amazing 730,367 ounces of milk was dispensed; five million ounces in our history (soon to be six million!), 881,000 ounces was donated by 1139 new donors and much of it came from our 74 DOCs, 10 new ones in 2017.

But numbers are not the real story - it's the babies we serve and their wonderful families. Tatum was born at 32 weeks weighing three pounds. She received donor human milk for a few feedings until her mom's own milk was available. Fast forward five months and Tatum is home and breastfeeding well, thanks to the wonderful lactation support she received in the hospital. Her mom, Michelle, had 804 ounces that she donated. "I probably never would have thought to donate had I not seen how vital, and how much, donor milk was used in the NICU." Michelle saved other babies with her wonderful gift thanks to the milk DOC in her hospital.

New Year, New Look

Announcing our new MMB Logo!

This icon keeps the flower imagery of MMB's existing
Wondering how to use the new logo? Please contact Christine Patoff, Director of Communications & PR at 720.507.0903 or christine.patoff@rmchildren.org to request a new Communications Toolkit. You will be seeing new brochures and other materials that will be sent to you in the coming weeks. You should have received the old toolkit when you first became a DOC and this will be a great time to look at the resources that are available to you and create your own news story. Laraine can provide you a total of the amount of milk that has been donated from your DOC, which makes a great story. And we have other ideas! Don't be shy! Toot your own horn!

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**Milk Needed**

This year, because of a severe flu season, fewer women are currently eligible to donate their milk because of fevers and/or the medicines they are consuming. Simultaneously, census numbers illustrate the number of births is higher than average so there is increased demand and a great need for ample supply. New milk donors are always needed but the need is greater than ever. YOU can help moms in your community know that their milk can save a baby's life.

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**Lactation Journal Club**

A program of Rocky Mountain Children’s Health Foundation (RMCHF) and hosted by MMB at Presbyterian/St. Luke’s Medical Center in Denver, Lactation Journal Club is facilitated and moderated by Dr. Marianne Neifert.

The group reviews current breastfeeding literature, hears from guest speakers, networks with colleagues, learns about breastfeeding initiatives, discusses challenging cases and previews new educational resources.

Benefits of Attending Journal Club include:

- Updates about the latest breastfeeding research
- A valuable network of lactation professionals
- Opportunities for continuing education credits, including CERPs and CEUs
- Enhance your practice by applying new knowledge

And now you can attend via webinar! Visit the Lactation Journal Club page on MMB’s website to register for the next session. February’s session will take place on Wednesday, February 21st.

To learn more about Lactation Journal Club, click here.

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**7th International Congress**
7th International Congress on Donor Human Milk Banking "Unlocking the Science of Human Milk" on April 16 and 17, 2018 in Denver, Colorado.

The Human Milk Banking Association of North America's annual conference has been held in many cities in North America and now it is coming to the Denver area. It is a wonderful chance for Colorado nurses to learn and meet others in their field who also work with infant feeding.

This essential conference will bring together experts in human milk, lactation and donor human milk banking from across the globe. This is an exciting opportunity for healthcare providers including nurses who work with infants in Colorado to come together to discover the latest research, earn educational credits and update practice in order to best serve tiny patients.

Just a sample of the exciting presentations:

- Human Milk Oligosaccharides at the Interface of Maternal and Infant Health - Lars Bode, PhD
- The Evolution of Lactation - J Bruce German, PhD
- Effects of Pasteurization on Human Milk Quality - Jean-Charles Picaud, MD
- Comparison of a Human Milk-Based to a Bovine-Based Human Milk Fortifier in Very Low Birth Weight Infants - Sharon Unger, MD
- Up In Smoke: The Potential Impact of Marijuana during Pregnancy and Breastfeeding - Laurel Wilson, IBCLC
- Donor Human Milk in the Well Newborn Population: Current Evidence and Unanswered Questions - Laura Kair, MD
- Breastfeeding and Safe Sleep: Dual Aligned Public Health Priorities - Marianne Neifert, MD

Full conference schedule available now at [www.hmbana.org](http://www.hmbana.org).

STAY CONNECTED:

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