



## THE NEVADA BREASTFEEDING COALITION

### October 15, 2025 Meeting Agenda

**Board of Directors:** **Board of Directors:** President: Rikki Jenkins; Vice President: Brittni Lents; Treasurer: Cristina Hernandez ; Secretary:Rojina Shrestha; Members at Large: Dawn Lipkin and Rebecca Jimenez

**Board of Executives:** Education Planner: Maria Palapa, Events Coordinator: Kaelani Queen, Swag Coordinator: Semaj Bruce; Website Coordinator: Jacquelyn Bonde, Community Outreach Coordinator; Rachael Nichols Marketing & Social Media Coordinator: Anita Momodu Board Member Emeritus; Colette Moore, Northern NV Rep; Jenn Campbell

#### **In Attendance: 45**

In addition to board members: Dr. Gabriela Buccini (Guest Speaker), Jayde Fox (SNHD, CLC), Summer Flowers (Silver Summit, MCHW), Ivy Strebendt (Attorney and Clinical Practice Advisor, SilverSummit Health Plan), Pamurphy, Thomson, Vickie Ives (DPBH), Cherish Wittenberg-RN, IBCLC – Renown Health (Northern Nevada), Jenn Campbell (Executive Director, Doula Co-op of Nevada), Rosemarie Arroyo (IBCLC, Member Coordinator), Jackie Chaidez, Ivonne, Kairi (Health Educator, Dignity Health Community Outreach; representing Nevada Statewide MCH Coalition), Danielle (RN), Iris Kwan-Quach, Nicole Bungum (SNHD), Angies, Ryan Mills (Health Program Manager II, ARPA Funds, DPBH), Amber Hise (State of Nevada CDPHP), Sarah Rogers (Division of Public and Behavioral Health, Bureau of Child, Family & Community Wellness), Lori, Cristal, Carla Sells-RN, IBCLC – Renown Health (Northern Nevada), Jackie Chaidez, Damaris, Chepree McIntosh-Baroni, Jill Schwartz, Pam Greenspon (Pediatrician, Desert Valley Pediatrics), Maya Rios (Children's Heart Center, Nevada), Maria Guerra (CLC, Nye County WIC)

Objectives	By	Notes / Objectives and Desired Outcomes	Further Action X
Call meeting to order	Rikki Jenkins	Introductions & approval of last meeting minutes	
Speaker	Dr. Buccini	<p><b>Dr. Gabriela Buccini, Ph.D., MSc, IBCLC</b></p> <p>We are wrapping up an incredible year with Dr. Gabriela Buccini, Assistant Professor at UNLV and recipient of the 2025 Golden Droplet Award!</p> <p>Dr. Buccini will lead an inspiring discussion on the ARPA Scholarship, its successes, impact, and what's next for the future of lactation in Nevada.</p> <p>Dr. Buccini gave an overview of the Nevada Lactation Hub Scholarship Program, sharing the progress made so far and what the next steps will look like as the funding period comes to an end. She talked about the ongoing shortage of lactation professionals in Nevada and how the program has been helping to build a more diverse and well-supported workforce through mentorship, scholarships, and community partnerships, encouraged everyone to continue working together to keep the progress going, mentioning future goals like addressing insurance and billing barriers, exploring the idea of a state milk bank, and promoting baby-friendly practices in hospitals across Nevada.</p> <p><b>Question &amp; Answer Discussion:</b></p>	

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>→ We discussed the need for a Nevada milk bank, as hospitals currently obtain donor milk from out-of-state sources such as UC San Diego (California) and Utah.</li> <li>→ Dr. Greenspon suggested reaching out to NICU nurse managers at local hospitals (e.g., UMC, Sunrise, and Renown) for more accurate information on milk bank practices and needs.</li> <li>→ Discussion on insurance and billing barriers—many IBCLCs face challenges being reimbursed directly, as some payers require physician billing for lactation services.</li> <li>→ potential solution by allowing lactation consultants to work within pediatric or OB/GYN offices under a shared billing structure.</li> <li>→ Rosie shared her experience that in-home lactation visits help families feel more comfortable and successful, supporting better breastfeeding outcomes.</li> <li>→ Continuing collaboration between UNLV, the Nevada Breastfeeding Coalition, and healthcare partners will be essential to sustain progress after the grant ends.</li> <li>→ To send ideas, hospital contacts, and policy priorities related to milk bank development, billing reform, or baby-friendly initiatives</li> <li>→ A bill to establish a milk bank in Nevada was presented in the 2023 legislative session but did not pass.</li> <li>→ The California facility is the renamed Mother's Milk Bank of California.</li> <li>→ Recommended reaching out to Sarah Ortega, the outpatient non-RN IBCLC at Renown (contact: 775-742-1299) for questions related to billing practices.</li> <li>→ Lee McAllister, Executive Director of the Nevada AAP and working in population health at Intermountain Health, could be a valuable resource for collaboration and advocacy.</li> <li>→ Cherish Wittenberg - shared Jennifer.Timmons@renown.org (Postpartum Nurse Manager at Renown) as a contact for questions about donor milk use.</li> <li>→ suggested encouraging Baby-Friendly initiatives, even partial “baby steps,” and emphasized engaging Medicaid providers to expand access.</li> </ul>	
Treasurer's Report	Cristina	<b>\$2,940.28</b>	
Membership	Dawn + Becca	<p><b>Welcome new members !!!</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Supporter \$0.</b> Perfect for parents, community members, students or non-professional lactation supporters.</li> <li>- <b>Advocate \$50.</b> Perfect for non-lactation professionals, doulas, Community Health Workers, WIC staff, social workers, therapists, etc. who work with lactating parents.</li> <li>- <b>Professional \$100</b> Perfect for IBCLCs, CLCs, CBEs, RNs, MDs or other lactation professionals.</li> <li>- <b>Organization \$200</b> Perfect for pediatric practices, health districts, organizations, hospitals, etc. Adds up to 3 people per organization; for more than 3 people, contact</li> </ul> <p>Membership is Valid for 12 months</p>	

		<p>Benefits of membership include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Discount on conferences and education events offered by NVBC</li> <li>* Discount on materials offered by the NVBC</li> <li>* First-hand opportunities to help shape the direction and perception of breastfeeding in our community!</li> </ul> <p>If you have any questions, reach out to Rosemarie &amp; Morgan using this email address  <a href="mailto:MembershipNVBC@gmail.com">MembershipNVBC@gmail.com</a></p>	
Coalition updates	Rikki	<p><b>We are still in search of a rural rep.</b></p> <p>View the full descriptions on our bylaws <a href="#">here</a>.</p>	
State Updates	Jackie Bonde		
ARPA Grant Update	Cristina	<p>The Nevada Lactation Hub Scholarship Program is a collaborative effort between the University of Nevada, Las Vegas (UNLV) and The Nevada Breastfeeding Coalition (NVBC) that will increase and diversify the next-generation lactation support providers in Nevada through November 2026. This project is being supported by federal allocation number SLFRP2634 allocated to the State of Nevada by the U.S. Department of the Treasury through a subward to the University of Nevada, Las Vegas (#SG 2024-00407, PI: Dr. Gabriela Buccini)</p> <p>This year we have made several wonderful partnerships including Nourish Nevada, Renown Hospital, NVMCH, Anthem Wellness Center, UNLV Pediatric Clinic, &amp; The Healthy Living Institute. There are several barriers to becoming a lactation specialist and a board certified lactation consultant. This grant aims to help reduce those barriers and help future programs do the same.</p> <p>The grant has two components. To award 70 scholarships for people in NV who would like to become a lactation specialist. The second component is for 10 people who are on the path to become IBCLCs. This program is for those on the pathway 3 program by including chief mentors, and provides paid hours.</p> <p>In the past year we have awarded a total of 56 scholarships.</p> <p>The final round of scholarship applications available under the program will open in Nov.</p> <p>Learn about our lactation scholarships:</p>	

		<a href="https://www.unlv.edu/publichealth/financial-aid/nv-lactation-hub">https://www.unlv.edu/publichealth/financial-aid/nv-lactation-hub</a>	
Community Updates	Rikki	<p>The Breastfeeding Support group is now <b>every Wednesday at HLI from 11a-12p.</b> (flyers were printed and can be distributed to organizations please email us if you would like some)</p> <p>We now have a new Spanish breastfeeding support group at The Anthem Wellness Center which will run <b>every Thursday 9-10:15 am.</b> The support group will be run by IBCLC Ana Saldivar and the ARPA lactation scholarship recipients.</p> <p>Pediatric Clinic lactation services at UMC – free for patients on Tuesdays &amp; Thursdays.</p>	

		<p>¿Quién puede participar?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Madres recientes con un bebé de hasta 14 días</li> <li>- Mujeres embarazadas entre 36 y 40 semanas</li> <li>- Deben vivir en Clark County, Nevada</li> <li>- Deben no tener seguro médico o ser beneficiarios de Medicaid</li> </ul> <p>¿Por qué es importante?</p> <p>Nuestro objetivo es conectar a las madres recientes con recursos de salud y nutrición para promover la alimentación infantil óptima y el desarrollo infantil temprano en el condado de Clark, Nevada. Este estudio tiene un gran potencial para contribuir a mejorar la salud y el bienestar de las madres/cuidadoras y sus bebés.</p> <p><b>Upcoming Events/community updates:</b></p> <p>No General Meeting until next year !!!</p>	
Discussion	Rikki	<p>It's election time! We will be sending an email out for folks to nominate someone or self-nominate. Voting will also take place online. The deadline will be November 15th.</p>	

***Our mission is to inspire, educate and build community support to make breastfeeding the norm for infant feeding in Nevada. For more information, contact us at [info@nvbreastfeeding.org](mailto:info@nvbreastfeeding.org)***

**No general meeting in Nov. & Dec. See you all Jan 2026!**