



COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP COLLABORATIVE

# Increasing families' equitable access to care






# Join the Collaborative

The Community Partnership Collaborative is a group of local organizations working to increase families' equitable access to maternal and child health care in collaboration with their community partners. Join the collaborative to get support with implementing a new lactation-related project or accelerating a project you're already working on.

## What You Get

Collaborative participants receive:

		
\$5,000 stipend to implement projects	Technical assistance from a Community Partnership Coordinator	Opportunities to learn from others in the Midwest

Learn more about each, starting on page 3.

## Timeframe

Spring 2023 – September 30, 2023

## Criteria to Participate

State WIC will select five (5) local agencies to participate in the collaborative. To participate, you should have:

- Interest in expanding communities' equitable access to and continuity of maternal and child health care.
- A specific focus on working with the maternal and child health population, particularly underserved and marginalized communities.
- A commitment to growing your community partnerships and implementing best practices.
- 3-4 hours per month, depending on the complexity of the projects selected. \*

*\* This includes time spent on information sharing, outreach to community partners, participation in monthly technical assistance calls (~ 30-60 minutes), peer-sharing calls, and presentation of successes at the end of the initiative.*

## How to Participate

Complete the [interest form](#) by Friday, March 10<sup>th</sup> 2023.

# Projects

Develop and implement lactation-related projects with the support of a Community Partnership Coordinator. Projects are chosen by you, and can be a new or existing project that could benefit from more support.

“This is really great that you’re doing this. It holds you accountable with check-ins and support to get your idea up and running. I feel like if I was left to figure this out on my own, it would take so much longer and it wouldn’t get done fast enough.” – *Local Ohio WIC*

## EXAMPLES OF PAST PROJECTS

- Increasing the number of accessible Certified Lactation Counselors by purchasing training.
- Assisting childcare homes and centers in becoming breastfeeding-friendly designated.
- Increasing access to doulas at little to no cost for families.
- Increasing access to breastfeeding resource books and breastfeeding-friendly children’s books at the local library.
- Increasing community awareness and support of WIC by hosting community meetings, tabling events, and lunch n’ learn events at local hospitals.
- Purchasing breastfeeding support supplies for WIC clinics, hospital lactation clinics, and public health home visits.
- Implementing a referral system for WIC services.

... And more! Learn about past [Community Partnership Projects](#).



St. Louis & Carlton County WICs (MN) hosted a Latch On community event.

# Stipends

Funding can help accelerate your project(s)! Funds must align with initiative criteria and contribute to policy, systems, and/or environmental change. Community Partnership Coordinators can help determine a use for your stipend.



## \$5,000 Stipend

Receive up to \$5,000 to implement your projects in collaboration with local partners.



## Fast & Easy

Coeffective makes purchases on your behalf, allowing you to use funds immediately and bypass lengthy approval processes.



## Flexible

Discretionary funds allow for flexibility to meet the community's needs.

### EXAMPLE STIPEND USES

- Gift cards for community members participating in community meetings and/or community engagement activities.
- Training to increase the number of certified lactation professionals.
- Lunch N' Learns, community meetings, and presentation expenses.
- Materials and equipment to improve access to breastfeeding-friendly spaces and programs.
- Stipends for WIC participant transportation.



Coshocton County WIC (OH) purchased breastfeeding support materials to encourage breastfeeding class participation.



St. Louis & Carlton County WICs (MN) used tabling events to increase hospital staff and patient awareness of WIC.

# Technical Assistance

You'll be partnered with an experienced Community Partnership Coordinator who can provide one-on-one technical assistance with:



## Developing Partnerships

Have capacity issues? Working with community partners on a project will help! Get help with identifying existing and new partners, creating or strengthening collaborative partnerships, and identifying shared goals between organizations.



## Project Planning & Implementation

Community Partnership Coordinators can support you in developing and implementing a project in your community. They can serve as a sounding board for your ideas, provide dedicated time to brainstorm solutions for your challenges, and help keep your project on track!

"I liked the coordination and planning Coffective provided and the tools shared. Technical assistance provided dedicated time to think through goals, brainstorm processes and potential solutions, and arrange for action steps to work on challenges that need focus." – *Local Iowa WIC*



## Community Integration

Find new approaches for how you can partner with the community. Get guidance on integrating community voice into project decision-making, planning, and implementation.



## Lessons & Resources

Community Partnership Coordinators can share ideas, examples, and resources, and connect you to other agencies implementing similar projects.

"My Community Partnership Coordinator listened to me, was able to point out what was working well when I did not see it myself, and was able to help me identify different strategies for connection that build off what I'm already doing." – *Local Wisconsin WIC*

# Opportunities for Learning from Others

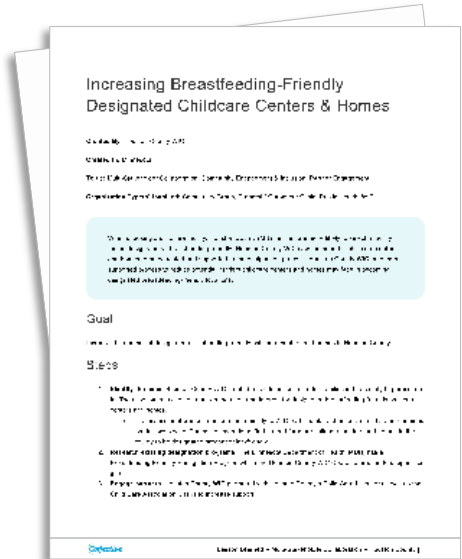
## Lessons Learned & Toolkits

Learn from the successes and challenges of other communities. Access resources they used, and adapt them to your needs. Share your own experiences so others can learn from you too!

Community Partnership Coordinators help curate lessons learned from across the Midwest into best practices to be shared with other communities looking to create or implement similar initiatives.

### EXAMPLES OF LESSONS LEARNED & TOOLKITS

- [Expanding Doula Access & Training in Rural Minnesota](#)
- [Increasing Access to Breastfeeding Resource & Breastfeeding-Friendly Children's Books](#)
- [Using Tabling Events to Increase Hospital Staff & Patient Awareness of WIC](#)
- [Increasing Breastfeeding-Friendly Designated Child Care Centers & Homes](#)
- [Using Collaborative CLC Training to Build a Breastfeeding Network](#)
- [Hosting Community Baby Showers to Increase Families' Awareness of Local Resources](#)
- [Creating a Free Lactation Clinic During a National Formula Shortage](#)
- [Creating a County-Wide Breastfeeding Network](#)
- [Lunch & Learn Toolkit](#)



## Sharing Calls

The Community Partnership Collaborative offers three opportunities to learn from other agencies on sharing calls.

- **State Kick-Off Call:** Collaborative participants within each state can join the kick-off call to learn from one another.
- **Midwest Regional Call:** To celebrate World Breastfeeding Month and progress made in collaboratives, all participants across the Midwest are invited to share their projects and learn from one another during a Midwest Regional Call. These regional calls include agencies from Iowa, Illinois, Minnesota, and Ohio.
- **Final State Call:** All are welcome! Regardless of participation in the Community Partnership Collaborative, all agencies within your state are invited to participate in a final peer-sharing call at the end of the grant cycle to learn about each collaborative project and from one another.

