**Native Breastfeeding Coalition of Wisconsin**

**Zoom Meeting Minutes**

**January 30, 2018**

**Call to Order:** The meeting began at 10:00 a.m.

**Attendees:** **Lac Courte Oreilles:** Jenny Bisonette, Mary Tribble, Mary Robinson

**St.** **Croix:** Tami Sandwick

**Menominee:** Kathy Lewandowski, Bethany Miller

**Stockbridge Munsee:** Anita Mihtukwsun, Briah Pingel

**Ho-Chunk:** Allie Isaacson

**Lac du Flambeau:** Jodi Chapman, Cressy Cassity, Michaela Daubon

**Bad River:** Suzette Rembert, Jennifer Ludack, Penny Charette

**Oneida:** Chenoa Webster, Amber Webster, Maria Danforth

**Lac View Desert:** Carley Reynolds

**State of Wisconsin:** Shawn Meyer

**Northwoods BF Coalition:** Debra Durchslag

**GLITC:** Meghan Porter, Jennifer Ledferd

**Doula in Training:** Blanca Cruz

**Approval of Minutes:** The were no comments or corrections to the minutes of the October 17, 2017 meeting.

**Old Business:**

1. **Survey** - Completed surveys are due. There was a request at the last meeting to have the survey available online. After consulting with Meghan Porter, it was determined that there would be no way to ensure confidentiality and that is why it was not available online. A two-month extension has been granted to Lac Courte Oreilles due to their late start in administering the surveys.

**ACTION: Please mail completed surveys to: GLITC, c/o Jennifer Ledferd, PO Box 9, Lac du Flambeau, WI 54538. If any other tribe needs an extension, please email Jennifer.**

**2)**  **Social Media Update -** Website is being updated with new materials approximately every two weeks. Twitter and Facebook pages are addressed every week with stories and information being shared. The texting support service has eleven participants.

**ACTION: Review the website and make note of any comments or suggestions.**

**3) Coalition Sustainability- HWLI update-** Creation of anExecutive Committee discussion to sustain coalition. Request for the survey regarding the coalition to be filled out. Several reported they had not received the survey. Shawn Meyer offered to help with formatting and agreed this is a great possible solution to keep all tribes involved. Jenny Bisonette suggested we identify top priorities of the group to ensure those are met. Debra Durchslag talked about tying activities to goals and a strategic plan.

**ACTION: Jennifer will create a couple different plans on how this Executive Committee could be managed. Review, decision making, and strategic plan addressed at the April 17, 2018 meeting in Bad River. Jennifer will send out the survey to those who did not receive it.**

**4) Health Fair Attendance-** Reminders that Breastfeeding: The Traditional Way is available to attend community events to help normalize breastfeeding.

**ACTION: Please invite Jennifer to 2018 community events.**

**5) Promoting Breastfeeding Worksites/Businesses**

An application was amended and shared for feedback to approach businesses and worksites to encourage a breastfeeding friendly environment. Blanca Cruz suggested that a guided process be attached so people will know what to say when approaching businesses. The childcare friendly program policies can be amended show businesses how they can support breastfeeding workers and patrons. Design #2 was chosen to have window clings made to handout. The wording on the blue design was changed to Breastfeeding Friendly “Business” rather than “workplace”.

**ACTION: Jennifer will create a finished package for the April 17 meeting.**

**6)** **Digital Storytelling- Wisconsin Tribes Breastfeed-** There was an agreement that having a tribal digital story made rather than individual stories would be best. A paid videographer has been located. There was no response trying to get colleges to pick up the project. Briah Pingel suggested we invite the storytellers from the Pictures and Pizza events to participate in the digital storytelling.

**ACTION: Announcement of the project will be made at the Pictures and Pizza events with invitations to participate. Scheduling of this project will begin. Bring your calendars to the April 17 meeting!**

**7) Tribal Photo Campaign-** Pictures and Pizza Community Breastfeeding Awareness Events will contribute to the poster project. Photographer and Pizza is provided along with posters to advertise the event. This breastfeeding awareness event is open to all community members. Photos of current and prior breastfeeding mothers will be sought after and releases will be available. Suzette Rembert suggested going to the elder gatherings and inviting them to come and share stories.

**ACTION: There are open dates available if you were unable to schedule an event: March 19, 20, 21, 22 or 23. Invitations to participate in the digital storytelling project will be made available at all of these events.**

**New Business:**

**1) Review of Texting Support Service-** There are only 11 participants.No one has texted in with questions or concerns. A text is sent out once or twice a week.

**Action: Think about if the texting service is something we want to continue to maintain due to low numbers. A decision will be made at next meeting.**

**2) Breastfeeding Bulletin Board Materials-** Bulletin board materials have been created. Cheri Nemec suggested they be available online so each tribe can print whichever materials they want to use. This would allow each usage to be different. The background and small details will be created by the user. Some would like to have the full package available. Some posters have been printed and will be shared with all tribal sites.

**ACTION: Materials will be uploaded onto the website for use as needed. There is a possibility that full packages will be created in the future.**

**3) Chippewa Cree and Blackfeet Tribes in Montana-** Resolutions templates were shared to help you encourage your tribal council to support breastfeeding.

**ACTION: The HWLI team are brainstorming ways to use these templates to get all of our Wisconsin tribes to support and encourage breastfeeding. Stay tuned for updates!**

**Tribal Updates:**

**Lac du Flambeau:** Have their Crochet and Coffee Breastfeeding and Prenatal Support Group meeting once a month. They also have a potluck with this group, the next being on March 1. They are working to get more male involvement by engaging them in the groups. They have a new breastfeeding tent that will be used during community events.

**Bad River:** They had the Baby! Baby! class prior to their birthing class. They had their first Community Baby Shower and had a presentation by Jennifer Ledferd from Breastfeeding: The Traditional Way. They will continue to have these quarterly. They are improving community involvement by having a centralized referral system to help reach prenatal mothers. They have breastfeeding support flyers all over the clinic so the community will recognize that they are breastfeeding friendly. They are having a Women’s Wellness Health event on May 1, 2, 3. These will focus on pre-conception through birth. Jennifer was invited to have a booth at the event. Penny remembered that when Honoring our Children was a program, Bad River used to have baby showers.

**Stockbridge-Munsee:** They have new OB Doctors at their clinic. They are improving their outreach and the interest in breastfeeding is rising. They plan to have a Nooni tent at their pow-wow in August. They are excited about the Pictures and Pizza Breastfeeding Awareness event and submitted a half- dozen names for the texting service.

**Lac Vieuw Desert:** They started a Medela Pump rental system for anyone in the home visitation program. They have two and no fee is involved. They are reconstructing their ladies room to a pumping room, have created a policy at the casino for breastfeeding mom employees, and will have a breastfeeding friendly tent at their pow-wow.

**Menominee Nation:** They are promoting their Baby! Baby! class that is coming on February 21. They co-teach a monthly breastfeeding class. They have their Curious Breastfeeding Baby Contest applications going out in April. They must be turned in by July and then they celebrate World Breastfeeding Week with a community walk. They usually have about 30 participants and give out free t-shirts. The following week is their pow-wow and they have a Nooni Tent.

**Lac Courte Oreilles:** They had a Baby! Baby! presentation to their partners and a class on breastfeeding support for para-professionals and family support services, both given by Jennifer Ledferd with Breastfeeding: The Traditional Way. They have been working internally get their home visitors the knowledge to support women in the breastfeeding journey. They plan to offer the Baby! Baby! class quarterly and have their community partners help to facilitate it. They are working on a formal letter to the clinics in town, to get team meetings with them and tour their facilities. They want the birth plans to be continued to be honored. One thing they have seen is that a baby with a low birth weight are being recommended to supplement with formula.

**Oneida Nation:** They did a teen class at the high school from the Breastfeeding: The Traditional Way materials and said it was very successful. They plan to do more in the future. They had Jennifer Ledferd come to their Community Baby Shower and do a presentation that was well received. They appreciate the breastfeeding resource guide that was developed for them. On April 3 they plan to do the Baby! Baby! class and the Pictures and Pizza event. They are going to ask participants to come in their regalia for the photos. They got an article in the newspaper about the coalition joining forces with the Healthy Wisconsin Leadership Institute. On April 21 they are having a health fair in the community. In their CAN meeting they discussed the creation of a breastfeeding support group and will use Breastfeeding: The Traditional Way and GLITC resources.

**St. Croix:** They have been experiencing staff changes when Rhonda Postler retired and two of their workers left. Nona Crowe is the new supervisor and is doing well in the position. One of their new home visitors was a former client. They are having a tribal symposium through Head Start with Dr. Pesch on February 6-7, at the Turtle Lake Casino. They are offering Community Play Groups where Ojibwe language is being introduced to the children. They are doing a meet and greet in all four communities to get the breastfeeding word out into the play groups. They have four Picture and Pizza events scheduled and are looking forward to them. They are providing services to 15 families at this time.

**Ho-Chunk Nation:** Allie was having connection issues during the meeting and forwarded her report via email. They have been going through staff changes. Jessica Stevens is no longer with the program. They have a few more surveys completed and will mail all of them soon. They want to have the Baby! Baby! class and do the Pictures and Pizza event but they will both be scheduled in a few months when things get back to normal. Allie expressed that she would like to be more involved in the coalition in the future.

**Sharing of Ideas:**

* Debra from the Northwoods Breastfeeding Coalition brought up WIC’s coeffective program which is free and offers congruent breastfeeding messages.

**Meeting adjourned at 11:45 p.m. The next meeting will be in April 17, 2018 in Bad River.**