**Native Breastfeeding Coalition of Wisconsin**

**Minutes of Kickoff Meeting**

**Lac du Flambeau, WI**

**October 19, 2016**

Kickoff: The meeting began at 10:00 a.m. with an introduction of the Breastfeeding: The Traditional Way program, Program Coordinator, and Attendees.

Attendees: Bad River: Penny Charette, Jacquelyn Brown

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

Menominee: Bethany Miller, Kathy Lewandowski

Stockbridge Munsee: Joan Olson, Anita Mihtukwsun

Ho-Chunk: Allie Isaacson, Denise Dodson

Lac du Flambeau: Michaela Daubon

GLITC: Meghan Porter, Cheri Nemec, Linda Ebbert, Cleo Reed, Heather Jordan, Jennifer Ledferd

Survey taken of meeting intervals and determined to be quarterly.

Current Practices: Each group was to determine their one best practice and greatest need.

**Stockbridge Munsee** reports that they have a wonderful medical provider support staff to encourage breastfeeding at their clinic and hospital with high initiation rates. What they would like to see changed is the amount of break time a nursing mother has at their casino, which is currently the standard 15 minutes and does not allow time to pump all of their milk out.

**Ho-Chunk** amended their Employee Rights Act in July of 2016 to support employees by giving them time to breastfeed or pump at work. This will affect all of their 3,400 employees at all locations and will introduced to new employees in their orientation. They need of specific Tribal baseline data of their nursing mother’s initiation and duration rates.

**Lac Courte Oreilles** described their breastfeeding rooms at the Head Start as their most recent best practice. They need to build relationships with their families prior to baby being born so they can work with them before it is too late.

**Menominee** shared that they have very supportive programs for mothers already breastfeeding, including dedicated spaces to nurse and pump. They need to clarify to the community that their breastfeeding support and resources are available to all women and not only those on WIC.

**Lac du Flambeau** works closely with the Marshfield Clinic on referrals to the different programs available to Tribal women. They have excellent rates of initiation and need to work on duration past the first two week

**Bad River** has a remarkable support team that work with families and are willing to share information and encourage breastfeeding. Formula is only given with a prescription from a doctor. They need more businesses to be supportive and designated areas to nurse in the clinic.

Developing Future Plans:

Suggestions were made to:

1. Maintain a consistent message by using the existing terminology. Use Breastfeeding rather than Natural Feeding and using formula rather than artificial or synthetic feeding. To collaborate with WIC’s messages so the mothers hear the same message from all sources.
2. Focus on the message “Breastfeeding: The Traditional Way
3. Use “Mother’s Milk, The Creator’s Gift” - simple but strong message
4. Focus on younger moms and build up her support system around her
5. Use a video campaign by respected women in each community or those who struggled with breastfeeding, short public service announcements showing supportive families
6. Use social media to get the message out, create a facebook page rather than a newsletter which may not be read
7. Other social media: twitter, Instagram, pinterest
8. Creating press releases tailored for each Tribe’s media outlets
9. Recognize the role of the mother and grandma and how they influence a newly breastfeeding mother
10. Noonie Tents at the pow wows, Bad River and Menominee, success of offering a private tent to nurse or pump, with a play area for siblings
11. Cutest baby contest, Menominee, picture on billboard for a year
12. Posters made and available to all sites. Best received posters were the Mother’s Milk and the Native Men Support Breastfeeding

Creating Our Name: Vote outcome: Native Breastfeeding Coalition of Wisconsin

Recommendation from LCO with agreement to have a Logo Contest open to all Wisconsin Tribal Members with a $50 Visa Card as a gift for releasing the design for use by the coalition.

Identifying Mission and Vision:

Recommendation by Bad River and agreement to table the mission and vision statements until the next meeting.

Reviewing Survey Tools:

Recommendations:

1. Would IRB approval or Tribal Council approval be necessary for each Tribe or the development of an MOU?
2. Use more open-ended questions
3. Add “I don’t know” as a response
4. Add only answer questions that apply
5. Change terminology- breastfeeding instead of natural feeding
6. Add the question or exclusive feeding versus combination feeding
7. Add the questions about how long you have been breastfeeding
8. Use PRAMHS questions so we can compare with their data
9. How administered, and prizes, a couple for whole survey group not everyone- drawing for 3 gift cards
10. Relevancy- mothers who have a baby in the last five years
11. Add question about perception of breastfeeding
12. What have you heard about breastfeeding questions
13. Who are the people who would support you if you breastfeed?
14. Keep survey short
15. Conduct a separate survey for fathers
16. Use online option to complete surveys for more participation
17. Medical Provider survey, define purpose

Certified Lactation Specialist Training:

Discussion, hand out, and sign up methods for the class offered in March, 2017. Each Tribe will be able to determine who would be the best attendees to help consult with mothers in their communities and have the greatest impact of improving duration rates. Each Tribe will be able to invite up to five people to participate in the class.

Tasks for Next Meeting:

Finalize Mission and Vision Statements

Review and Approve Final Survey

Finalize plans for survey completion

Discuss expansion of membership

Discuss infrastructure and sustainability of coalition

Next Meeting will be in January, 2017, date and location TBD