



Mother & Child Health Coalition

Press Release

Contact: Anne Biswell
(816) 283-6242 ext. 226

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
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Nursing 911: Lactation Planning for Emergency Preparedness

Kansas City, MO – Mother & Child Health Coalition's Breastfeeding Committee is convening a free, metro-wide educational event on Thursday, August 6, 2009 at the Unified Government Public Health Department (619 Ann Ave., Kansas City, KS 66101), 3rd Floor Auditorium, from 1:30 – 3:15 p.m. This event celebrates World Breastfeeding Week (August 1-7, 2009) and is sponsored by Mother & Child Health Coalition and the Greater Kansas City Lactation Consultants (a local chapter of the United States Lactation Consultants Association).

Mother & Child Health Coalition believes that the entire community needs to be aware of the risks of not being prepared for women to breastfeed during a natural disaster. In many cases, infant formula will not be an option, as has been well-documented in the case of Hurricane Katrina. The event has three main objectives:

1. Define the role of breastfeeding during a disaster/emergency.
2. Discuss resources and infrastructure that need to be in place to support breastfeeding during a disaster/emergency.
3. Provide illustrations of what has taken place (related to breastfeeding) in other countries to plan for such a disaster.

A proclamation from the Mayor's office will be read and an award to a deserving breastfeeding-friendly workplace will be presented.

Registration opens at 1:00 p.m. in the hallway outside the auditorium. Parking is available in the visitor parking lot, free of charge. For more information about the event, please contact Paul Cesare at (816) 283-MCHC (6242) ext. 239.

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Mother & Child Health Coalition promotes the health of mothers and children through community planning, education, advocacy and collaboration with organizations addressing infant mortality, immunizations, childhood obesity, maternal health and child safety. Interviews are available upon request.

6400 Prospect Ave., Suite 216 Kansas City, MO 64132 (816) 283-6242 (816) 283-0307 fax
www.mchc.net