

Dear Employer,

We know that you are concerned about the well-being of your employees, their productivity and morale. We invite you to participate in an important worksite opportunity, the development of worksite policies and support for breastfeeding employees.

When an employee returns from maternity leave, she wants to be a productive and profitable employee and a good mother. That is why so many women today are choosing to breastfeed their babies, even as they return to work. Studies indicate that women who breastfeed are more productive on the job and worry less about their babies. Because their children are healthier, breastfeeding employees take less time off work to care for their sick infants and pay less in health care costs. Breastfed infants are fifty percent less likely than formula fed infants to become ill in the first year of life. These benefits positively and directly affect an employer's bottom line.

Returning to work after having a baby can be a difficult transition. Providing a designated area in the workplace for breastfeeding or to pump breastmilk is highly encouraged by the American Academy of Pediatrics. Employer's policies and practices that support nursing mothers can make a difference between continued successful breastfeeding and unwanted weaning.

Thank you for being a leader in your community. If you have questions or would like more information, please feel free to contact the State WIC Breastfeeding Coordinator, Martha Hagen, at 785-291-3161 or mhagen@kdheks.gov

Sincerely,

\_\_\_\_\_ County WIC Clinic