

# MIBFN 2020 ANNUAL REPORT

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# MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD CHAIR

“

I JOINED MICHIGAN BREASTFEEDING NETWORK, AS A BOARD MEMBER, ALMOST TWO YEARS AGO. DURING THAT TIME, WE WERE JUST ENTERING A SPACE OF “FOUNDATIONAL TRANSFORMATION” WHICH INCLUDED LISTENING, REFLECTING, AND CHANGING HOW WE CONDUCT OUR WORK AS AN ORGANIZATION. THIS SPACE PROVIDED US WITH TIME TO REDEFINE HOW WE DO OUR WORK, MAKING SURE JUSTICE AND EQUITY ARE AT THE CENTER OF EVERYTHING WE DO. ALTHOUGH IT WAS A HARD ROAD TO TRAVEL, IT ALLOWED US A MOMENT TO RE-ORIENT OURSELVES TO WHERE LISTENING AND LEARNING ARE CENTRAL TO WHO WE ARE NOW.

SYSTEMS OF INEQUITY ARE THE CENTRAL ROADBLOCKS TO BREASTFEEDING SUCCESS AND IT IS SO REAFFIRMING TO BE A PART OF AN ORGANIZATION THAT’S TRULY WORKING TO ADDRESS THE BREASTFEEDING INEQUITIES THAT EXIST WITHIN OUR SOCIETY. MY DOCTORAL RESEARCH WAS FOCUSED ON THE IMPORTANCE OF SOCIAL NETWORKS AND THEIR INFLUENCE ON BREASTFEEDING OUTCOMES. WE NEED MORE PEOPLE AND ORGANIZATIONS NURTURING THE PATHWAYS OF SUPPORT FOR BREASTFEEDING FAMILIES - AND I SEE MIBFN DOING THAT! I AM EXCITED TO BE A PART OF THIS JOURNEY WITH MIBFN, KNOWING THAT WE ARE BUILDING A SUSTAINABLE, COMMUNITY-DRIVEN, GRASSROOTS MOVEMENT.

I AM SO PROUD TO LEAD THIS GROUP OF COMMITTED STAFF AND VOLUNTEERS. WE ARE COLLABORATING AND SUPPORTING OUR COMMUNITIES THROUGHOUT THE STATE TO CREATE A BREASTFEEDING-SUPPORTIVE CULTURE FOR ALL FAMILIES. AS YOU READ THROUGH THE FOLLOWING PAGES, I HOPE YOU’LL BE AS INSPIRED AS I AM TO SUPPORT THIS IMPORTANT, LIFE-CHANGING WORK.”



# MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

Dear colleague,

Because of supporters like you, in the last year, the Great Lakes Breastfeeding Webinars have been viewed over 7,245 times by health care workers across the globe; more than 100 families in Flint are benefitting from a Village Model of care grounded in community leadership who both reflect and represent the Flint community; a dozen birthing families of color in Battle Creek and Detroit are connecting weekly in sisterhood and building a virtual community for breastfeeding success; and dozens of breastfeeding supporters from all corners of the state are breaking down geographic silos to network, incubate ideas, take action, and achieve outcomes for and by the communities we serve. **Thank you for everything you do to make Michigan a more breastfeeding-supportive state.**

Every professional medical organization recognizes the vital necessity of breastfeeding infants and young children. The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) recommends exclusive breastfeeding until six months and the World Health Organization (WHO) recommends continued breastfeeding until at least two years of age. However, our national and statewide breastfeeding initiation and duration rates do not reflect these guidelines. And, dismantling the systems of oppression that got us here - white supremacy, capitalism, and patriarchy - may take generations. We have centuries of intentional disruption of traditional birth, exploitation of women's bodies, and separation of families to credit for that. But, it doesn't have to be this way. **With people like the MIBFN Board of Directors and staff, the growing group of breastfeeding supporters with whom we serve, and you, a better way forward can be realized.**

COVID-19 has made our work even more urgent. But, this is not just an issue of educating and pressuring more families to breastfeed. The overwhelming majority of families across Michigan already choose to breastfeed. Data from the 2020 CDC Breastfeeding Report Card reports that in Michigan 85.3 percent of families initiate breastfeeding. However, only 58 percent of Michigan infants are still breastfed at six months, and of those babies, only 25.8 percent are exclusively breastfed in accordance with AAP and WHO recommendations. Why is that? Because our systems are not set up for breastfeeding families. **In order to put breastfeeding success within reach, we need to change systems, not families.**

We must do better. And, with your support, we can. I hope you will see the love, passion, commitment, and joy we bring to our work. We love what we do, and we especially love the people with whom we serve. With your support, our work can grow, and it must. **This cannot wait. For the health of our children, for the health of our families, for our future, the time is now.**

In solidarity,



Shannon McKenney Shubert, MPH, CLC  
Executive Director, Michigan Breastfeeding Network



BREASTFEEDING SAVES LIVES, ESPECIALLY IN EMERGENCIES.



**Human milk is truly liquid gold.** We have known for decades that human milk adapts to meet the needs of the growing child - fat and caloric counts shift in communication between the child's saliva and the parent's breast. We know that colostrum, the first milk after birth, lines the gut for a lifetime of better health. Human milk research has also demonstrated that some of the most harmful strains of bacteria and viruses can not survive inside human milk. And, as the COVID-19 data comes out, these findings continue to be affirmed.

*Breastfeeding saves lives, especially during emergencies.*

## OUR MISSION

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We endeavor to lead the statewide collaborative actions for **advocacy, education and coalition-building** to create a supportive breastfeeding culture.

## OUR APPROACH

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As we move forward as an organization with equity at the center of our mission-driven work, we have begun the work of addressing breastfeeding inequities and health-related outcomes. One way of addressing breastfeeding inequities is to listen and learn alongside communities that have been traditionally underserved and to amplify their current work to address these disparities.

**To be a trustworthy partner in these efforts, our approach revolves around listening, learning, planning, and transparency.**

## OUR VISION

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We envision all families living and working in a **breastfeeding-supportive culture**.

# GOALS

## EDUCATION

Make breastfeeding education accessible and inclusive to encourage the broad base of community leaders who endeavor to become breastfeeding supporters.

Align with ongoing efforts that focus on issues of equity within breastfeeding education. Promote culturally relevant breastfeeding research from diverse viewpoints.

Provide relevant and timely education on how to work toward eliminating the systemic and structural barriers that prevent breastfeeding success.

Connect breastfeeding education with access to equitable and sustainable employment for those who provide breastfeeding support.

## ADVOCACY

Change systems, not families.

Serve alongside leaders and community advocates within systems, as a partner for breastfeeding-specific solutions.

Advance breastfeeding-supportive administrative and legislative policies.

Increase the visibility of policy makers who adopt breastfeeding-supportive policies.

## COALITION BUILDING

Cultivate and support breastfeeding coalitions in every Michigan community – including tribal, ethnic, geographic, and cultural communities.

Ensure that coalition members reflect and represent the communities they serve.

Support coalition work that cultivates breastfeeding-supportive systems.

# WE ENVISION A FUTURE WITH:

- A PLETHORA OF DIRECT BREASTFEEDING SUPPORTERS — BREASTFEEDING PEER COUNSELORS, INDIGENOUS BREASTFEEDING COUNSELORS, COMMUNITY HEALTH WORKERS, CERTIFIED LACTATION COUNSELORS, INTERNATIONAL BOARD CERTIFIED LACTATION COUNSELORS, ETC. — WHO REFLECT AND REPRESENT THE COMMUNITIES THEY SERVE.
- A BROAD-BASE OF PEOPLE WHO UNDERSTAND THEIR INFLUENCE ON BREASTFEEDING OUTCOMES — EMPLOYERS, CHILD CARE PROVIDERS, JUDGES, JAIL WARDENS, EDUCATORS, ETC. — AND WHO LEVERAGE THEIR POWER TO CULTIVATE FAMILY-CENTERED SYSTEMS.
- MIBFN SERVING AS A TRUSTED PARTNER FOR SYSTEMIC BREASTFEEDING CHANGE BY CULTIVATING A CONTINUOUS FEEDBACK LOOP WHERE MIBFN IS AT THE TABLE OR CONVENING THE TABLE AND ENSURING EQUITABLE SPACE AT THE TABLE FOR FAMILIES AND BREASTFEEDING SUPPORTERS WITH THEIR CONCERNS AND ASPIRATIONS, AND WITH POLICYMAKERS WHO SHARE OUR MISSION, VISION, VALUES, GOALS, AND COMMITMENT TO DIVERSITY, EQUITY, AND INCLUSION.
- MIBFN SERVING AS A CONNECTOR OF COMMUNITY-DRIVEN EFFORTS ACROSS THE STATE TO SHARE SUCCESSES, SUPPORT, BEST PRACTICES, AND OPPORTUNITIES TO BUILD POWER COLLECTIVELY TO SERVE ALL BREASTFEEDING FAMILIES ACROSS MICHIGAN.
- HAVING AN INTERDEPENDENT WEB IN EVERY COMMUNITY, ORGANIZING AND ADVOCATING FOR SYSTEMIC CHANGE, BOTH BY TARGETED IDENTITIES AND GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION — CITY, COUNTY, REGION, AND PENINSULA. WE ENVISION THAT “IDENTITY” COALITIONS DRIVE THE NEEDS, MESSAGING, AND PRIORITIES, AND “GEOGRAPHIC” COALITIONS WILL SERVE IN SOLIDARITY WITH IDENTITY COALITIONS.
- EXPANDED FREE CONTINUING EDUCATION OFFERINGS OF THE GREAT LAKES BREASTFEEDING WEBINARS.
- BROADENED ADVOCACY CAMPAIGNS, INCLUDING UPDATED CAMPAIGN FRAMEWORK FOR LEGISLATIVE AND ADMINISTRATIVE POLICY CHANGES WITH EXPLICIT FOCUS ON EQUITY AND JUSTICE.
- MONTHLY, VIRTUAL MEETINGS OF LOCAL BREASTFEEDING SUPPORTERS.
- 33% OF MIBFN’S TOTAL REVENUE FOR THE UPCOMING FISCAL YEAR GOING DIRECTLY BACK TO COMMUNITY BREASTFEEDING SUPPORTERS IN ADVANCEMENT OF THEIR LOCAL, EQUITY-CENTERED EFFORTS.

# THE PEOPLE

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Ambyr Amen-Ra, MA



Jennifer Baragrey, IBCLC



Stan Bien, MPA



Ellen Lassiter Collier, MA



Elon Geffrard, BS, GLC, ICCF, CD(DONA)



Lonias Gilmore, MPH



Julie Lothamer, MS, RD, IBCLC



Lisa Sommer King



Kristine M Maki, LLMSW, CPST



Raeanne Madison, MPH



Bethany Moody, RN, MSN, CNM



Cierra Pfothenhauer, MS, RD, IBCLC



Natosha Sage-EI, IBCLC



Gayle Shipp, PhD, PHF, CLS

## STAFF



Kaitlyn Bowen, MS, RD, LDN



Gi'Anna Cheairs, BS



Jennifer Day, IBCLC



Katy Jolley, CD(BA)



Shannon McKenney Shubert, MPH, CLC



Vicki Wood, GLC, CLS

## ORGANIZATIONAL PARTNERS



“ I INITIALLY ACCEPTED A POSITION WITH THE MICHIGAN BREASTFEEDING NETWORK BECAUSE I THOUGHT IT WOULD BE A COOL ORGANIZATION TO WORK WITH AND FOR. WHILE IT DEFINITELY IS, WORKING WITH MIBFN HAS BEEN NOTHING SHORT OF AMAZING. I HAVE BEEN ABLE TO BE MY TRUE, AUTHENTIC SELF AND USE MY VOICE TO ADVOCATE FOR DISENFRANCHISED COMMUNITIES AND I’VE RECEIVED FULL SUPPORT IN DOING SO. MIBFN’S COMMITMENT TO EQUITY WITHIN THE BREASTFEEDING COMMUNITY IN MICHIGAN MOTIVATES ME TO KEEP GOING IN MY WORK AND EDUCATING MYSELF.”

GYANNA CHEAIRS, BS



MIBFN Operations Manager

“

**NOTHING BUT KUDOS TO THEM; THEY HAVE HELPED INVOLVED DAD, THEY HAVE HELPED MY FATHERS, AND IT WAS COOL WORKING WITH THEM IN THE ASPECT OF A PARTNER. THEY WERE ALWAYS WILLING TO MAKE THE NECESSARY ADJUSTMENTS. THEY'RE ALWAYS ASKING, "SHON, DO YOU NEED ANYTHING ELSE? IS THERE ANYTHING ELSE THAT YOU NEED THAT WE'RE MISSING?"**

**I HAVE A MODEL, AND I ALWAYS SAY THIS, DON'T BE AVERAGE, YOU MIGHT AS WELL BE ELITE, BECAUSE THE 310 NETWORK AND THE MICHIGAN BREASTFEEDING NETWORK IS DEFINITELY ELITE."**

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**SHON HART, BS**



Founder of Involved Dad

“

**I CHOSE TO SERVE WITH THE MICHIGAN BREASTFEEDING NETWORK BECAUSE I BELIEVE IN THE MISSION OF CREATING A SUPPORTIVE BREASTFEEDING CULTURE IN THE STATE OF MICHIGAN. I ALSO BELIEVE THAT THERE IS A LOT OF WORK THAT NEEDS TO BE DONE STILL IN SUPPORTING FAMILIES OF COLOR IN BREASTFEEDING AND OTHER ISSUES AROUND BREASTFEEDING, SUCH AS CUSTODY."**

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**NATOSHA SAGE-EL, IBCLC**



MIBFN Board Member

“

**SERVING AS A PROJECT MANAGER FOR MIBFN ALLOWS ME TO ADDRESS THE SYSTEMIC BARRIERS THAT PREVENT BREASTFEEDING SUCCESS IN THIS COUNTRY WHILE CONNECTING ME WITH INDIVIDUALS AND ORGANIZATIONS DOING AMAZING EQUITY-FOCUSED WORK IN THEIR LOCAL COMMUNITIES."**

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**VICKI WOOD, CLC, CLS**



MIBFN Project Manager

**WE APPRECIATE THE RELATIONSHIP WE HAVE ESTABLISHED WITH MIBFN, IT IS EMBEDDED IN TRUST AND EMPOWERMENT. OUR ORGANIZATION OVER THE YEARS HAS FELT HEARD, VALUED, AND APPRECIATED. WE LOOK FORWARD TO CONTINUING TO SUPPORT BREASTFEEDING FAMILIES IN YEARS TO COME IN OUR CONTINUED PARTNERSHIP WITH MIBFN.**



**“ I ANSWERED THE CALL AND SAID ‘YES’ BECAUSE I ALIGN DIRECTLY WITH THE MISSION OF THIS ORGANIZATION. WE AIM TO CREATE A SUPPORTIVE BREASTFEEDING CULTURE HERE IN MICHIGAN WHICH IS RESPONSIVE TO THE DIVERSE EXPERIENCES AMONG MICHIGAN FAMILIES WITH YOUNG CHILDREN.”**



“OUR SYSTEMS ARE NOT SET UP FOR BREASTFEEDING FAMILIES. IN ORDER TO PUT BREASTFEEDING SUCCESS WITHIN REACH, WE NEED TO CHANGE SYSTEMS, NOT FAMILIES.”



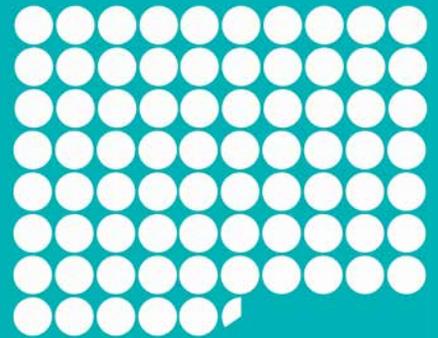
# **RECENT SUCCESSES**



# EDUCATION

- Provided 7536 continuing education credits through the Great Lakes Breastfeeding Webinars in the past year to participants from every state across the country, as well as internationally.
- Secured financial support from Illinois, Wisconsin, Ohio, Connecticut, Minnesota, and the Tyler Rigg Foundation to ensure that the webinar series is free to participants.
- Expanded free continuing education credit for participants in the monthly Great Lakes Breastfeeding Webinars to include dietitians, nurses, social workers, and lactation professionals.
- Created on-demand webinar format for participants to access whenever and wherever for continuing education credit available for 12 different webinars housed at [www.mibreastfeeding.org/webinars](http://www.mibreastfeeding.org/webinars).
- Published 12 webinars for continuing education from Black and Indigenous presenters focusing on health equity issues in the field of lactation.
- Published two bonus Great Lakes Breastfeeding Webinars for continuing education credit during 2020 to directly address the concerns of COVID-19 and breastfeeding.
- Established and published our working definition of racial equity to reflect webinar presenters and topics for 2020.

## 7536 CONTINUING EDUCATION CREDITS PROVIDED



= 100 continuing education credits

### OUR WORKING DEFINITION OF RACIAL EQUITY

*Disparities in breastfeeding are perpetuated by inequities that have historically and currently centered white people and their experiences. Racial equity in breastfeeding is both a process and an outcome. The process of working towards racial equity in breastfeeding involves purposefully decentering white supremacy and colonialism, including the notion that whiteness is the standard of normalcy, beauty, superiority, and centrality in our society. This process involves trusting Black and Indigenous families, elevating their voices, and investing in their communities. The outcome of racial equity is the adoption of breastfeeding-supportive policies and practices that eliminate negative health outcomes caused by systemic racism and realized when the social construct of race is no longer a predictor of breastfeeding outcomes.*

# ADVOCACY

- Established Advocacy agenda for eight campaigns and published them to [mibreastfeeding.org](http://mibreastfeeding.org).
- Participated in the United States Breastfeeding Committee's advocacy day in Washington D.C., meeting with legislators and staff from the entire Michigan delegation to the federal government.
- Became members of Michigan Council for Maternal Child Health, MI Milk Collective, and United States Breastfeeding Committee.
- Served on the State of Michigan Breastfeeding Workgroup and as advisors to the forthcoming State of Michigan Breastfeeding Strategic Plan.
- Developed and shared COVID-19 child care, workplace, and letter to pediatric providers advocacy resources.
- Successfully advocated for doulas to be allowed into hospitals to support birthing families during COVID-19.
- Worked with Governor Whitmer to proclaim August 2020 Breastfeeding Awareness Month in Michigan.
- Worked with Governor Whitmer to declare racism a public health crisis in Michigan.
- Created COVID-19 webpage ([mibreastfeeding.org/covid-19](http://mibreastfeeding.org/covid-19)) with resources shared at Local Breastfeeding Supporter Meetings.
- Created August 2020 Breastfeeding Awareness webpage ([mibreastfeeding.org/breastfeeding-awareness](http://mibreastfeeding.org/breastfeeding-awareness)) and shared August 2020 Breastfeeding Awareness social media posts.
- Established a foundational guidance process gleaned from Community Conversations and Local Breastfeeding Supporters.

## DID YOU KNOW?

**EMPLOYERS MUST PROVIDE TIME AND SPACE FOR LACTATING EMPLOYEES TO EXPRESS MILK, EVEN DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC.**

View breastfeeding and workplace guidance and frequently asked questions at [mibreastfeeding.org/workplace](http://mibreastfeeding.org/workplace)

**MIBFN**  
Michigan Breastfeeding Network

**WORKLIFE**  
LAW  
WORKPLACE AND FAMILY LAW ATTORNEYS

# COALITION BUILDING

- Grew our Local Breastfeeding Supporters directory to include more individuals and organizations throughout the state.
- Convened an Advisory Council for 2020 Community Conversations to listen to breastfeeding barriers and solutions from families of color in Detroit, Flint, Benton Harbor, and Battle Creek.
- Collaborated with Southeast Michigan IBCLCs of Color (SEMI) on #InvestInDetroitBreastfeeding fundraiser, raising \$49,364 in compensation, supplies, and PPE for Detroit-area skilled lactation support during COVID-19.
- Convened 6 monthly MIBFN & Local Breastfeeding Supporters Meetings with participants from all regions of Michigan, and, based on these meetings, created five reports available at [mibreastfeeding.org/local-meetings](http://mibreastfeeding.org/local-meetings).
- Served in solidarity with the establishment of 2 new Black-led community-driven breastfeeding organizations in Battle Creek, MI and Benton Harbor, MI; Milk Like Mine and LactPower, respectively.
- Served in solidarity with Milk Like Mine to leverage efforts with SEMI for a collaborative weekly Virtual Breastfeeding Support Group in response to COVID-19 pandemic need.
- Served alongside YOLO Breastfeeding with the creation of the Village Model, which provides Black-led community-driven birth and breastfeeding support and education to families in Flint and the Greater Genesee County areas.
- Served in solidarity with InvolvedDad to train 10 organizations on the importance of fatherhood involvement throughout the birth and breastfeeding process in Flint and the surrounding Genesee County community.
- Served alongside the Breastfeeding Coalition of Calhoun County as they centered the needs of the community in the areas of; workplace, child care, normalization, and maternity care efforts.

## #INVESTINDETROITBREASTFEEDING FUNDRAISER:



SKILLED LACTATION SUPPORT  
\$10,364



PPE AND TELEHEALTH ACCESS  
\$4,000



LACTATION SUPPORT SUPPLIES  
\$35,000

# ORGANIZATIONAL WINS

MIBFN team transitioned from independent contractors (aside from the Executive Director) to staff members, totaling 6 staff members as of October 2020.

Solidified our mission-driven goals, as developed in 2018, and identified the systems within which we endeavor to influence change, which are published and available at [www.mibreastfeeding.org/mission](http://www.mibreastfeeding.org/mission).

On-boarded a new board of directors from a variety of organizations, locations within the state, and diverse backgrounds.

Successfully completed first-ever financial audit.

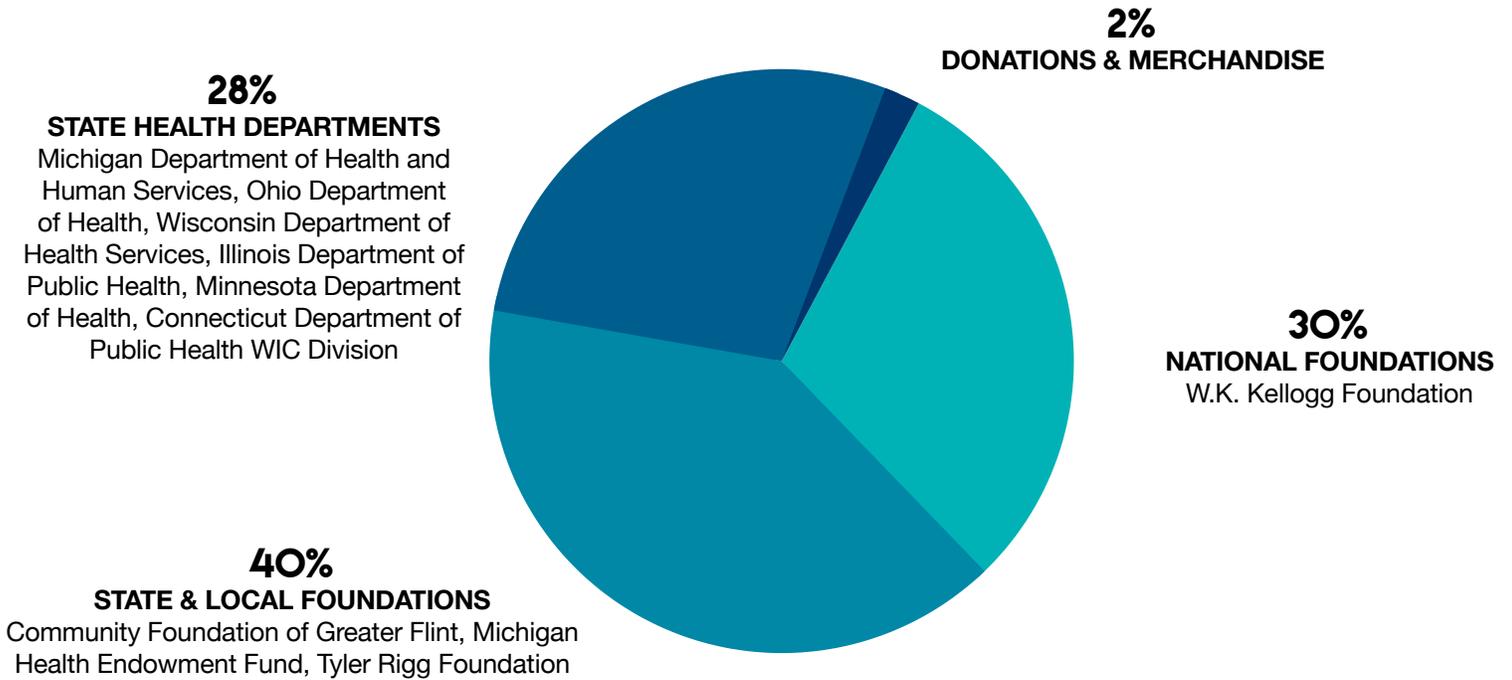
Sekeita Lewis-Johnson, DNP, FNP-BC, IBCLC accepted nurse planner role to serve as the Nurse Continuing Education Consultant on the Great Lakes Breastfeeding Webinars.

THE WORK CONTINUES

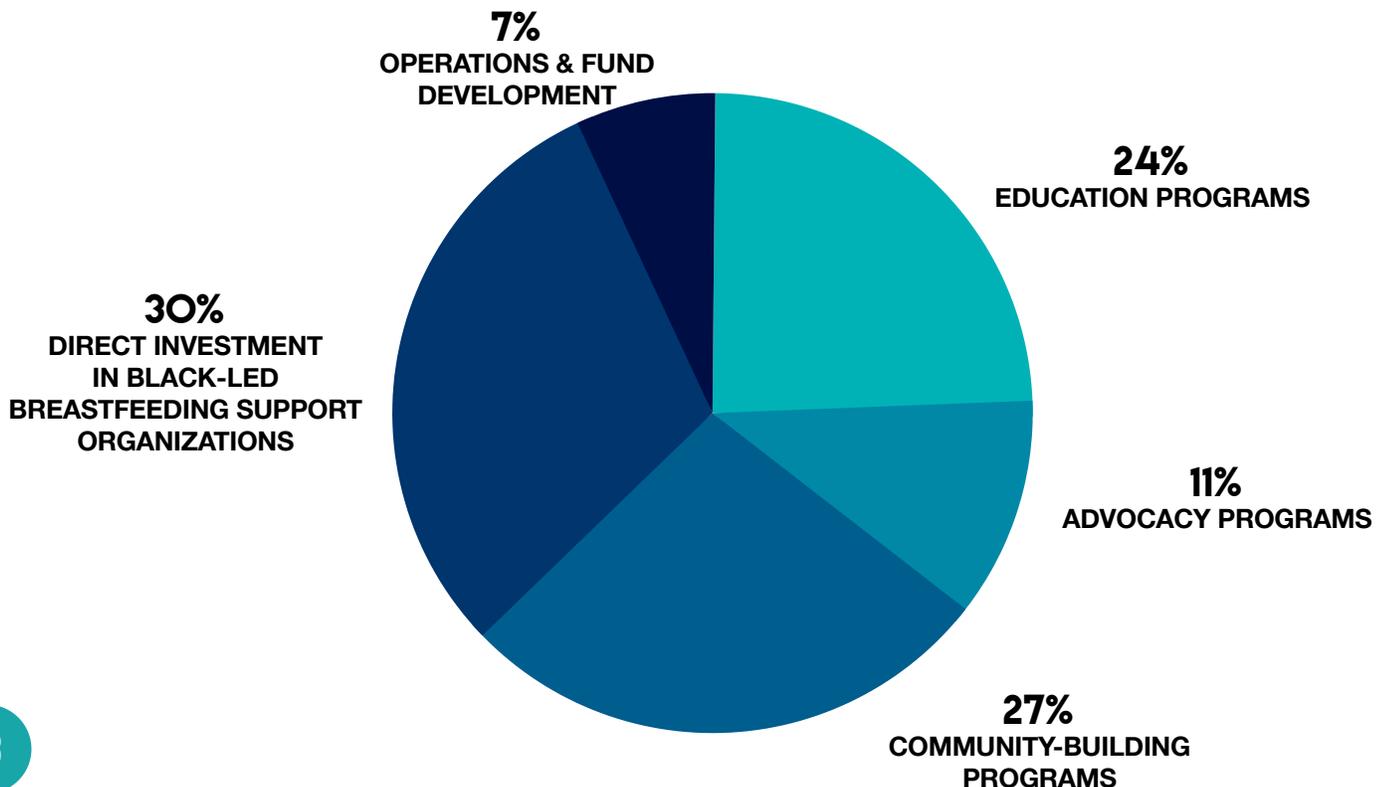


# FINANCIALS:

## REVENUE



## EXPENSES



# WHAT IS NEXT:

- DEVELOPING AND IMPROVING OUR STRATEGIC PLAN TO BETTER EXEMPLIFY THE EFFORTS OF OUR ORGANIZATION AS WELL AS THOSE WE'RE PARTNERING WITH.
- EXPANDING OUR LEGISLATIVE ADVOCACY TO PURSUE MORE EQUITY AND JUSTICE THROUGH THE BREASTFEEDING LENS.
- INCORPORATING SUBTITLES INTO THE GREAT LAKES BREASTFEEDING WEBINARS BEGINNING JANUARY 2021.
- ADDRESSING THE NEED FOR BREASTFEEDING EDUCATION ACROSS DISCIPLINES, THEREBY EXPANDING CONTINUING EDUCATION BEYOND SOCIAL WORKERS, REGISTERED DIETITIANS, NURSES, AND LACTATION SUPPORTERS TO INCLUDE MEDICAL DOCTORS, COMMUNITY HEALTH WORKERS, COMMUNITY HEALTH EDUCATION SPECIALISTS, AND PUBLIC HEALTH PROVIDERS.
- PROVIDING AT LEAST 6 L-CERPS AND 1 E-CERP THROUGH THE GREAT LAKES BREASTFEEDING WEBINARS TO SUPPORT MEETING THE CONTINUING EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS OF THE ANCC AND THE HUNDREDS OF LACTATION SUPPORTERS AROUND THE STATE WHO WORK TO MAINTAIN CLC CREDENTIALING.
- INCORPORATING AT LEAST TWO BONUS WEBINARS INTO THE 2021 SCHEDULE WITH EQUITY-FOCUSED, COMMUNITY-DRIVEN TOPICS.
- CONTINUING OUR COMMITMENT OF SHIFTING THE CURRENT PARADIGM OF EXPERTISE BY FEATURING LOCAL PRESENTERS WHO ARE LEADERS IN THE HISTORICALLY MARGINALIZED COMMUNITIES WHERE THEY LIVE AND SERVE, WITH SPECIFIC FOCUS ON BLACK AND INDIGENOUS PERSONS OF COLOR (BIPOC).
- REACHING OUT TO AT LEAST THREE OTHER STATE DEPARTMENTS OF HEALTH OUTSIDE OF MICHIGAN TO INCREASE FINANCIAL SUPPORT AND SUSTAINABILITY.
- ENHANCING AND SUPPORTING THE YOLO VILLAGE MODEL, TAKING PLACE IN THE GENESEE COUNTY AREA.
- ALLOCATING 33% OF BUDGET TO DIRECTLY SUPPORTING LOCAL WORK IN FLINT, DETROIT, BATTLE CREEK, PONTIAC, AND MORE!

**BECOME PART OF THE CHANGE**

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**Breastfeeding saves lives.** With COVID-19 impacting communities throughout Michigan and around the world, now is the time more than ever to dismantle systemic barriers that prevent breastfeeding feasibility and success for families across the state. Breastfeeding helps to reduce health disparities among families of color caused by long-standing systemic racism present within communities and the healthcare system.

The Michigan Breastfeeding Network knows that breastfeeding is evidence-based practice, and that evidence-based policies and practices can help to eradicate these differences when implemented equitably and early in a variety of care settings. By demonstrating commitment to reduce health disparities for families of color, our whole society can be strengthened.

**YOU CAN HELP US WORK TOWARDS OUR VISION OF ALL FAMILIES LIVING AND WORKING IN A BREASTFEEDING-SUPPORTIVE CULTURE.**

**DONATE TODAY AT [MIBREASTFEEDING.ORG/DONATE](https://mibreastfeeding.org/donate).**

If you are interested in supporting a specific community-based organization that MIBFN collaborates with, you can list the organization name in the comment box when submitting the form on the Donation webpage. Thank you for all you do!



LEARN MORE ABOUT OUR WORK AT [MIBREASTFEEDING.ORG](http://MIBREASTFEEDING.ORG).