

DISMANTLING SYSTEMIC RACISM FOR EFFECTIVE BREASTFEEDING SUPPORT

First, do no harm.

Black and Indigenous providers should be centered in all hiring and promotion opportunities across birth and breastfeeding spaces.

Families need to be prioritized in all breastfeeding decisions.

White providers who work with families should be required to do ongoing anti-racism work.

REPRESENTATION MATTERS!



“ We cannot pretend anymore that it is enough just to know how to help babies to latch. **Everyone who works with families must know the historical trauma and how to show up in spaces of breastfeeding support in ways that account for the systemic racism that inhibits so many Black and Indigenous families from reaching our breastfeeding goals.**”

- Bonita Agee, BS, CLC, Local Breastfeeding Supporter

Everyone in healthcare and public health impacts breastfeeding. Equity- and justice-centered breastfeeding education should be required and provided to all staff.

Training and testing to become **skilled lactation supporters** need to be made purposefully affordable and accessible for women of color.