

# HUMAN MILK FEEDING MAKES US ALL HEALTHIER.

## THE BENEFITS OF BREASTFEEDING FOR YOUNG CHILDREN ARE WIDELY KNOWN:

- LOWER INFANT MORTALITY
- FEWER EAR INFECTIONS
- LOWER CANCER RATES
- LOWER DIABETES AND OBESITY
- HIGHER IQ
- AND SO MUCH MORE.

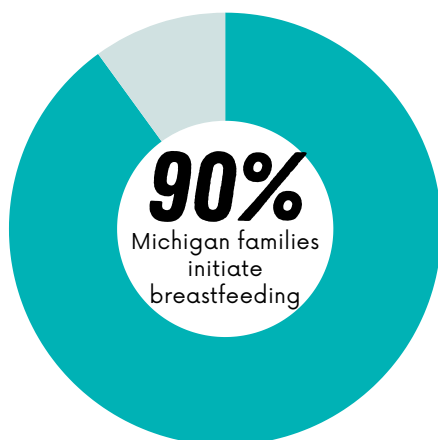


Breastfeeding supports lifelong health - not just for babies, but for families and communities. It reduces infant mortality, chronic illness, mental health challenges, and even environmental waste. Society benefits too - with lower healthcare costs, reduced disease rates, and stronger families.

**800,000 CHILDREN'S LIVES +  
20,000 MATERNAL LIVES**

could be saved each year if every child were  
exclusively breastfed for six months

At MIBFN, we say: **If you care about humans, you care about human milk.** The goals you care about - educational readiness, mental health, employee retention - are all more attainable when families are supported in reaching their breastfeeding goals.



**"IF YOU CARE  
ABOUT  
HUMANS, YOU  
CARE ABOUT  
HUMAN MILK."**

Ninety percent of Michigan families start breastfeeding, yet most are unable to continue due to lack of support. That’s where we come in. Our mission is to advance an equitable, just, and breastfeeding-supportive culture through:

Education	Advocacy	Community Building
<p>We provide accessible and culturally-grounded education through a robust webinar series that reaches over 25,000 professionals annually across seven disciplines, and through our 45-hour Community Breastfeeding Specialist course, providing them with skilled, in-depth support as they gain expertise and credentials as they enter or continue their professional lactation journey. Both of these educational offerings provide effective and community-centered strategies to provide direct support to families to meet their human milk feeding goals.</p>	<p>We are working to change organizational policies from work places, to prisons, and everywhere in between - including advocating for businesses, outpatient clinics, offices, churches and all places where folks work and congregate to not only abide by breastfeeding-related laws but also to surpass them and provide truly breastfeeding-supportive communities across Michigan.</p>	<p>We partner with breastfeeding supporters across the state to strengthen the infrastructure and resources needed for long-term, community-led support. This includes initiatives like milk courier programs for hospitalized infants, home visits, virtual mental health and breastfeeding support groups, doula care, miscarriage and bereavement support, and accurate postpartum education. We prioritize peer-to-peer models, which research shows are the most effective in improving outcomes - especially when support comes from people who share lived experiences with the families they serve.</p>

**BOTTOM LINE: WHEN YOU UPHOLD THE PRIORITY OF HUMAN MILK FEEDING, YOU’RE REALLY PRIORITIZING THE OPPORTUNITY FOR FAMILIES TO LIVE IN STRONGER, HEALTHIER COMMUNITIES WHERE WE ALL LEARN, WORK, WORSHIP, AND PLAY.**



Despite its well-known, wide-reaching benefits, community-level support remains limited or absent in many parts of Michigan. **That’s why we have a goal to ensure that financial investment in human milk feeding is happening at all levels of society throughout Michigan - from private donors, foundations, healthcare and public health systems, local/state/federal government etc.**

We’d love to discuss more, share ways the breastfeeding supporters in your community are working towards your foundation’s goals, and discuss areas of potential collaboration to embed financial support for human milk feeding in your organization’s strategies.