

# BUILDING CARE TOGETHER: COMMUNITY UPDATES AND REFLECTIONS

## LOCAL BREASTFEEDING SUPPORTER UPDATES

### WRAPPED IN LOVE

Hosting Lactation Masterclasses for Birthworkers  
(Jackson: 1/16/26;  
Grand Rapids: 2/20/26)

### WAYNE STATE

Maintaining 10 lactation spaces across campus; report forthcoming

### THE NESTING SPOT

Expanding in-network status with BCBS, BCN, Aetna, UHC, Tricare, and Cigna

### BELATCHED

Providing free in-home lactation support for Black Kent county families

### SEMI

Hosting free CPR classes with Connections 2 Life at Birth Detroit Care (1/20/26)

### MICHIGAN VOICES

Advancing water protection and access legislation.

### DOULA CARE ALLIANCE

Trying to expand Rx Kids in Grand Rapids; highlighting Invisible Wombs campaign

### MIBFN

Launching Etsy store and inviting GLBW webinar presenters to reach out if interested

### U OF M HEALTH WEST

Accepting applications for the Parent and Family Advisory Council

### PRIORITY HEALTH

Incentivizing doula services

### LIFE WITH AJENE

Publishing new maternal justice video

## PLANTING SEEDS IN HARD SOIL

### SHONTE'S MIC DROP MOMENT

The meeting closed with a powerful reflection from Shonte', who offered an intentional pause and grounding moment for the group. In a true mic-drop moment, Shonte' invited participants to reflect not only on the work ahead, but on how we show up for ourselves, our communities, and one another while doing this work.



BE LIGHT  
INSTEAD OF  
DARKNESS

HAVE HARD  
CONVERSATIONS IN OUR  
OWN COMMUNITIES  
BEFORE GATHERING  
COLLABORATIVELY

DON'T BE  
AFRAID TO  
EVOLVE

TOXIC SYSTEMS  
CANNOT BE FOUGHT  
WITH TOXICITY

### BARRIERS IMPACTING IBCLC CARE

- BCBSM billing disruptions
- Coverage gaps limiting access
- Physician/NP billing requirements
- Licensure barriers
- Limited LCE credentialing
- Ongoing policy advocacy



PLANT SEEDS IN GOOD  
GROUND, WATCHING  
WHERE YOU WATER

MIBFN

Michigan Breastfeeding Network