

This day care provider recognizes that breastfeeding is the ideal method of feeding and nurturing infants, providing many health benefits to both infant and mother. We encourage and support families who choose to breastfeed their infants and strive to protect their ability to continue providing breast milk while their infant is in our care. We promote a philosophy that advocates breastfeeding as the normal feeding process and are committed to helping families have a successful experience. To show our commitment, families can expect the following:

- A clean, private, and comfortable space is available to breastfeed or express milk. Families are welcome and encouraged to come to our program to breastfeed, express milk, and provide more milk during the day. Refrigerator and freezer space is available to store expressed breast milk.
- Staff work with families to familiarize the infant with bottle feedings during the transition from home to day care.
- To develop healthy eating habits, staff are aware of and respond to the infant's hunger and fullness cues ("on demand" feeding). Staff coordinate feeding times with the infant's normal feeding schedule. Infants are held while being fed, and bottles are never propped.
- The day care provider does not serve any food or drink other than breast milk unless requested by the family.
- The day care provider has materials available for families who have questions about breastfeeding and can refer them to resources in the community.
- Staff receive training on practices that support breastfeeding and on proper storage and handling of breast milk.
- Breastfeeding employees are provided flexible breaks and the same accommodations as the families of enrolled infants, in order to support breastfeeding or milk expression.

This policy will be renewed and updated as needed. It will be shared with all families during orientation, and with staff upon hire. Any updates will be shared with all staff, and families of enrolled infants.