Minnesota Department of Health and WIC program logos

# Staff and Supervisor Discussion Tool:

**WIC Breastfeeding Support: How front-line staff promote breastfeeding**

## Training and specific clinic procedures discussion:

Date:

Work location:

Name of person attending the training:

Supervisor:

WIC representative, if not supervised by WIC staff:

Other front line staff participating in this discussion:

**Does the waiting/reception area communicate support for breastfeeding?**

Are there any building policies that affect what can be put up on the walls?

* If so, what are other ways to visually communicate support for breastfeeding?

(Sign at reception desk? Stand-up information on tables in waiting area? Books about breastfeeding? Video clips? Other?)

* If not:

Is there a sign that women are welcome to breastfeed, but if they would prefer a more private area they can ask the staff? (*See companion document for information on downloading a sign*.)

Breastfeeding posters can be requested from the State WIC Office ([Materials Order Form](https://www.health.state.mn.us/forms/cfh/wicmaterials/index.html?target=AGENCY)).

Where can a WIC participant breastfeed if they request a more private area?

Location:

Specific access information, if any. (e.g., is it a shared lactation space and if so, how can you see if it is in use?)

How are you involved with creating an initial WIC record in the WIC Information System?

How does that potentially impact breastfeeding?

If not involved, note that and skip this section.

**Do you get requests for formula? Do women tell you they just quit breastfeeding? What other situations come up?**

Recommendations for responding to those questions.

WIC staff or role to refer the question to:

What is the process for referring the question to that person?

If WIC staff are not available, is there someone who can address a breastfeeding concern? (Public health nurse, home visitor, peer, other)

Name or role:

How to contact:

**If someone complains about a woman who is breastfeeding in the waiting area, where can you suggest that the person who is complaining could sit?**

Alternate location:

Other discussion about handling the situation. (Who should you inform?)

**What are your questions about breastfeeding and your role in promoting and supporting breastfeeding?**

## Reference – Complete Listing of Hyperlinks

[Materials Order Form](https://www.health.state.mn.us/forms/cfh/wicmaterials/index.html?target=AGENCY) (<https://www.health.state.mn.us/forms/cfh/wicmaterials/index.html?target=AGENCY>)

*Minnesota Department of Health- WIC Program 85 E 7th Place, PO BOX 64882, ST PAUL MN 55164-0882; 651-201-4444,* [*health.wic@state.mn.us*](mailto:health.wic@state.mn.us)*,* [*www.health.state.mn.us*](http://www.health.state.mn.us/)*; To obtain this information in a different format, call: 651-201-4444*