

NEWS RELEASE

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North Dakota Breastfeeding Coalition finds Partnerships in Unique Locations

BISMARCK, ND. –Moms on the go now have a place to breastfeed or pump across the state, thanks to the North Dakota Breastfeeding Coalition (NDBC). The NDBC received a grant from the North Dakota Department of Health to partner with five major airports, the FargoDome and all four zoos to provide private, clean and secure breastfeeding space for mothers. Over two million people fly through North Dakota airports, one half a million visit the zoos and over a million attend events at the FargoDome, on an annual basis, and many of these visitors are breastfeeding mothers.

“North Dakota is the first state in the nation to have all of the major airports and zoos provide private and secure space for breastfeeding and pumping moms. The purpose of the breastfeeding spaces is to support mothers in reaching their breastfeeding goals and normalize breastfeeding in North Dakota,” stated BriAnna Wanner, NDBC Executive Director.

In North Dakota, 82 percent of women start breastfeeding their infants, and by six months, 23 percent continue exclusively breastfeeding. The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) recommends exclusive breastfeeding for the first six months of a baby’s life, followed by breastfeeding in combination with other foods until at least 12 months of age. Breastfeeding provides many health benefits for both the mother and baby, such as a lowered risk for breast and ovarian cancers for the mother and fewer episodes of diarrhea, ear infection, lower respiratory infections, and reduced risk of sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS) and obesity for the baby.

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The entities that partnered for the project include:

- Bismarck Airport
- Dakota Zoo-Bismarck
- Dickinson Theodore Roosevelt Regional Airport
- FargoDome
- Hector International Airport-Fargo
- Red River Zoo-Fargo
- Grand Forks International Airport
- Roosevelt Zoo-Minot
- Minot International Airport
- Chahinkapa Zoo-Wahpeton

For more information about the Breastfeeding Spaces grant, contact BriAnna Wanner, North Dakota Breastfeeding Coalition, at [701.425.1260](tel:701.425.1260).

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