

**BEFORE THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FOR MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON**

PROCLAMATION NO. 2023-070

Proclaiming August 1st to 7th, 2023 as World Breastfeeding Week and August 25th to August 31st, 2023 as Black Breastfeeding Week in Multnomah County, Oregon.

The Multnomah County Board of Commissioners Finds:

1. August is National Breastfeeding Month, an initiative designed to celebrate, support, and promote awareness of the benefits of breastfeeding.
2. The World Breastfeeding Week campaign aims to inform, anchor, engage and galvanize action on breastfeeding and related issues.
3. Black Breastfeeding Week is an initiative intended to celebrate and encourage Black women to breastfeed.
4. Racial inequities in breastfeeding rates persist and are the result of barriers in healthcare, employment, and community settings as well as racial and ethnic discrimination.
5. Multnomah County recognizes the physical and mental benefits of breastfeeding for both babies and mothers, as well as the importance of reducing racial disparities in healthcare and birth outcomes for babies.
6. Multnomah County recognizes the importance of having employer focused breastfeeding, as employers that provide workplace lactation support experience an impressive return on investment, including lower health care costs, absenteeism, and turnover rates, and improved morale, job satisfaction, and productivity, and breastfeeding is economical, providing its benefits at little or no cost and providing a safe, renewable food source, especially critical during natural disaster and emergency situations.
7. Multnomah County is committed to establishing a Breastfeeding Medicine Healing and Training Center dedicated to improving the health outcomes and infant mortality rates of mother/baby dyads of color by providing access to culturally supported evidenced based Lactation Consultant Provider services for Women of Color in Oregon.
8. Promoting diversity in the lactation field and applauding the work of community breastfeeding champions is very important, and Black Breastfeeding Week provides the opportunity to encourage government agencies, community-based organizations, and academic institutions to share this message and work together to engage in equity efforts in their communities.

The Multnomah County Board of Commissioners Proclaims:

August 1st to 7th, 2023 as **World Breastfeeding Week** and August 25th to August 31st as **Black Breastfeeding Week** in Multnomah County, Oregon, in recognition and celebration of the importance of Breastfeeding in our community.

ADOPTED this 3rd day of August, 2023.



BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FOR MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON

Jessica Vega Pederson, Chair

REVIEWED:
JENNY M. MADKOUR, COUNTY ATTORNEY
FOR MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON

By _____
Jenny M. Madkour, County Attorney