Prenatal Breastfeeding Classes

with experienced peer La Leche League Leaders through

co-operative action with community health partners

Why?

- "Mothers in the community have no confidence about their milk supply"
 - Winnie, Family home visitor,
 Parents for Better Beginnings
- "Women at the mother to mother meetings kept saying: I wish my partner could hear this. Then he would understand. '... we needed a way to prepare support people too."

· Denise, LLL Leader

"We have a lot more women attending peer support groups in the daytime. But they're coming after already going through the toughest first weeks! Mothers prefer mornings. But pregnant

women at work during the day can't come." Catherine LLL Leader

Populations needing

- Support:
 Newcomers
- Aboriginal women
- Younger mothers
- First time parents

Community Breastfeeding Projects With the Best Start Resource Centre

Partnering with health professionals

- 2014/15 Parents for Better Beginnings Regent Park Community Health Centre, Toronto Birth Centre & Seventh Generation Midwives Toronto
- 2015/16

York Region Public Health, Ontario Early Years Centres, Welcome Centre Family Care Midwives Vaughan 2013-2016



2014/15 Toronto: Regent Park

- October seriesFebruary series

Series of 3 weekly classes, 1-1.5hr long

2015/16 York Region: Newmarket, Markham, Richmond Hill, King City, Keswick, Maple

One time classes- 2.5-3 hours long. 10 sessions total

Markham: 4 classes (English, Mandarin , Cantonese)

OEYC Richmond Hill: I class (Cantonese)

OEYC King: 2 classes Keswick: 2 classes

Maple: I class (Russian)



Class Format:

- Adult learning
- Evidence based/Learned experiences
- Live mom (dad) and baby testimony
- Tangible visual aids
- Demonstration/hands-on
- Language interpretation





▶ WHAT do we need for the actual class?

- Videos
- Visual Aids
- Baseball, ping pong ball, marble. Different size stones to demonstrate stomach size. Cloth or knitted breast
- Handout material
- Demonstration baby doll
- Duplo blocks to demonstrate "building blocks" of breast milk vs formula
- Posters skin to skin, Baby's first weeks
- ▶ A/V equipment projectors, laptops, TV's
- ▶ Flip charts



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Evaluation

100% of respondents identified topics covered as either helpful or very helpful. The following topics were identified as "very informative/helpful" (the highest score possible):

- How breastfeeding works 58%
- Importance of breastfeeding 74%
- Latching & positioning 89%
- Getting enough milk 68%
- Avoiding & overcoming difficulties 58%
- What to expect in 1st week 79%
- How & where to get support 79%

Most mentioned these "new things" they learned in the class:

- Babies' "second night."
- Need for skin to skin holding.
- The size of a newborn's stomach.
 Babies will nurse frequently.
- Colostrum is enough.

"You forget you need to know what happens after the baby is born. The class helped both Shannon and me because we found out challenges are normal. We didn't go in totally blind."

Monica

"I found the class very real. It was great to speak and learn from real situations"

Julie

Capacity building 2015 Leader Education day Session: Providing B4B Prenatal Breastfeeding Classes 2016: An increase in # LLLC Leaders providing distinct prenatal breastfeeding classes New Leaders in LLLC - Central and Southern Ontario Thank You.... Questions? www.LLLC.ca