



Mothers' Milk Bank of New England

Sharing the Health

PO Box 60-0091
Newtonville, MA 02460
617-527-6263
www.milkbankne.org

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Goodsearch & Goodshop: A two-for-one easy fundraiser

Goodsearch.com is a search engine, similar to Google or Yahoo. Each time you use it, Goodsearch contributes a little over one cent to the cause you choose. Make goodsearch.com your default search engine and with each search you will be making a contribution to MMBNE.

Goodshop.com brings together over 700 online stores, giving a percentage of your online purchases to your cause. Designate MMBNE as your cause, and do your online shopping through goodshop.com. If we each designate MMBNE as our cause, the pennies will add up to needed funds to help premature and sick babies throughout New England to receive human milk.

Mother's Day Appeal

Our annual Mother's Day appeal is in progress. This yearly appeal focuses on raising much-needed funds from friends and family one letter at a time. A letter of appreciation for your tax-deductible contribution will be sent to the donor and a Mother's Day Card acknowledging the gift will be sent to the honoree. Please see www.milkbankne.org/appeal

Shaw's Receipt Rewards Program

The Mothers' Milk Bank is participating in a fundraising program sponsored by Shaw's Supermarkets. As a non-profit group, we receive 1% of qualified purchases made at Shaw's/Star Supermarket stores through their Receipt Rewards Program. Participating is easy and free: see instructions on our website at www.milkbankne.org/support

From the Executive Director:

Thanks to a wonderful and talented group of dedicated volunteers and professionals, MMBNE has taken giant steps forward in several areas of our endeavor.

Dr. Kathie Marinelli, our Medical Director, Ilene Fabisch, our Clinical Director, and I have made several presentations at hospitals and conferences throughout New England and are scheduled to give several more in the coming months.

MMBNE's first conference was held April 24 at the Caritas Holy Family Hospital in Methuen. Sixty-five health care providers came from five New England states, representing thirteen hospitals as well as community health services and private practices.

We have just completed two new brochures, "Donating Your Milk" and "Receiving Donor Milk for Your Baby." You may view them online (www.milkbankne.org/resources) and print them yourself, or contact our office to have multiple copies mailed to you.

Thank you all for your continued interest in and support of the milk bank. We are looking forward to a Grand Opening celebration later this summer, to welcome the community and our supporters to the new milk bank lab.

Until then, Share the Health!

Naomi Bar-Yam
Executive Director

MMBNE Conference a Success

Our one day conference, *Human Milk Banking: Preventive Medicine in Practice*, held at Caritas Holy Family Hospital on April 24, was a great success. The conference could not have succeeded without a generous donation from the Jessie B. Cox Charitable Trust and the support of Ameda, Tufts University, and Caritas Holy Family Hospital.

About 65 physicians, nurses, LCs, dieticians and other providers from a dozen hospitals, health care agencies, and private practices from five New England states gathered at Caritas Holy Family Hospital in Methuen, MA. We learned from our speakers and shared information and insights about the research, clinical, practical and ethical aspects of human milk banking.

Thanks to everyone on the MMBNE and HFH team who worked together to make this program a success. More information on the conference can be found on our website, www.milkbankne.org/conference

HMBANA 2010

MMBNE is honored to host the biannual conference of the Human Milk Banking Association of North America - *100 Years of Milk Banking: Looking Back, Reaching Forward*. The conference will be held April 12-13, 2010 at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Cambridge, MA. This conference brings together milk bank professionals, human milk researchers, physicians, nurses, LCs, dieticians, and other professionals from around the world to learn about the most current research in breastfeeding and human milk banking and to learn from one another about the many aspects of milk banking.

Exciting Volunteer Opportunities

We are beginning to form committees to organize the 2010 conference, including Welcome, Sponsorship, and Scholarship Committees. If you would like to get involved, please e-mail Sally (sally@milkbankne.org).

Seeking Breastmilk Donations for Breast Cancer Research

Dr. Kathleen Arcaro at UMass Amherst is recruiting breastfeeding mothers to donate small amounts of breastmilk for use in two breast cancer studies. She is looking for mothers who:

Study #1: had and nursed a child at the age of 25 or younger, and are now 35 or older, and are nursing.

Study #2: have had a breast biopsy in the past, or are expecting to have one in the near future, and are nursing.

Participants will be asked to provide a milk sample and fill out a questionnaire, and will receive \$25 in thanks. For more information, contact Tanya Lieberman at info@breastmilkresearch.org. More information is at www.breastmilkresearch.org. Feel free to forward this information to anyone who might qualify.

Newsletter

This newsletter was edited by Tsila Sloane with assistance from Naomi Bar-Yam and Heather Greene. Please direct questions to Tsila (bostonsloanes@verizon.net).

Share The Health Award



Newton residents Dr. Charles Anderson, Arlene Bernstein, Prof. David Newburg, Naomi Bar-Yam, Sally Kepnes, Karen Sussman-Karten, Raechel Hackney, and Prof. Marcia Marker Feld, receive the Share the Health award on behalf of Mayor Cohen, who could not attend the presentation due to illness.

Mayor Cohen enabled us to retrofit our dispensary to include the laboratory and its equipment. Thanks to Mayor David Cohen, the Mothers' Milk Bank of New England is well on its way to becoming a fully operational milk bank, the only one in New England.

Spotlight on MMBNE Breastmilk Recipient: Baby Violet Grace Taylor



Baby Violet Grace was born on August 2, 2008 at Massachusetts General Hospital. The following day she suffered a pulmonary hemorrhage and needed open-heart surgery. It was several weeks before her parents, Meagan White and Steve Taylor, could take her out of her isolette, being mindful of her breathing tube. She has severe chronic lung disease, which has created many challenging situations in her short life.

Through subsequent surgeries, reventilation, sedation for several weeks to aid her recovery, constant recalibrations of the sensitive interplay of drugs that help her to survive, and other trials, she has continued to develop and grow physically, mentally and emotionally with the help of her medical team at MGH, her loving parents, extended family and friends, and breastmilk from MMBNE.

Violet's mother, Meagan White, pumped her own breastmilk for five months, until she could no longer keep up with Violet's increasing needs. Meagan and Steve are deeply grateful that the Lactation Consultant at MGH suggested supplementing Meagan's milk with banked milk from MMBNE. They were also supported and eagerly encouraged by Violet's doctors who were instrumental in the process of obtaining donor milk.

Violet's parents and her caregivers are amazed and inspired by her fortitude and her miraculous ability to overcome all of the obstacles she has faced. They believe that much of her heartiness and resilience is due to her being fed breastmilk since she was born, thanks to MMBNE. Meagan is certain that her daughter's eyesight, specifically, was saved from retinopathy of prematurity (ROP) by the breastmilk she received.