



**MOTHERS' MILK BANK
NORTHEAST**

2023

**IMPACT
REPORT**

Saving Newborn Lives . . .

Est.

17,000

**BABIES
SERVED IN**

2023



ABOUT MOTHERS' MILK BANK NORTHEAST

OUR ORIGINS

Founded in 2006, Mothers' Milk Bank Northeast is a non-profit that improves health outcomes for fragile infants throughout the northeast and beyond.

OUR MISSION

Driven by the belief that every baby deserves the chance to thrive, we support family and community health by providing equitable access to safe, lifesaving pasteurized donor human milk.

A CRITICAL NEED

Currently serving 100+ hospitals, our milk is dispensed to premature and medically fragile babies when a maternal milk supply is not available. For these high-risk infants, human milk is the safest source of nutrition to guard against further (sometimes life threatening) medical complications including necrotizing enterocolitis (NEC). NEC, an infection of the gut, is the most common cause of death in premature babies after two weeks of life.

With milk beyond what our most fragile babies require, we also provide donor milk as a short term "bridge" to breastfeeding. The use of donor milk, instead of formula, as a supplement improves breastfeeding rates. And successful breastfeeding results in significant maternal and infant health benefits including lower rates of cancer, SIDS, asthma, diabetes, obesity, celiac disease and more.

**IT IS ESTIMATED THAT EVERY \$1
SPENT ON DONOR MILK RESULTS
IN UP TO \$37 IN HEALTH CARE
SAVINGS**

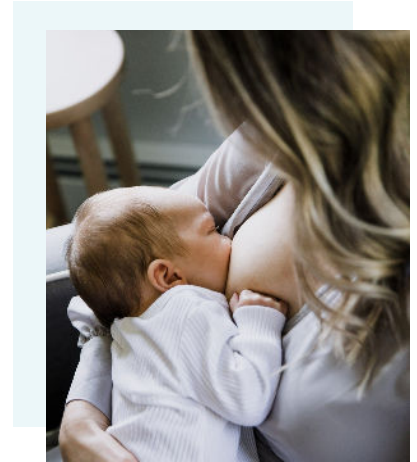
YOUR SUPPORT AT WORK



899 MILK DONORS MAKING A
DIFFERENCE FOR BABIES IN NEED

“We’re so thankful we had access to donor milk which not only helped to nourish Caleb but provided immense psychological comfort at a time when I was struggling with the weight of feeling like a failure. I experienced some postpartum depression/anxiety during this time. But being able to give my son human milk and all the benefits that go along with it was a huge relief.”

~ Abbey, Baby Caleb Received Donor Milk



“It might seem like a small thing, but the option of donor milk instead of formula meant the world to me. My baby would exclusively breastfeed, just with a little more help . . . We need a community to raise our kids. It’s something we need to do together. And maybe that message is getting lost today . . . I am grateful to now have milk to give and love the act of donation.

~ Katharina, Received & Donated Milk With Baby Max

“WE EXIST BECAUSE BABIES NEED US TO EXIST. HELPING THOUSANDS OF BABIES COME HOME SAFELY FROM THE HOSPITAL EVERY YEAR, WE ARE COMMITTED TO ACTIVELY MOVING THE NEEDLE ON MATERNAL AND INFANT HEALTH.”

~ **DEBORAH YOUNGBLOOD, PHD, CEO MOTHERS’ MILK BANK NORTHEAST**

1.5M⁺

ESSENTIAL
FEEDINGS FOR
FRAGILE INFANTS
EVERY YEAR

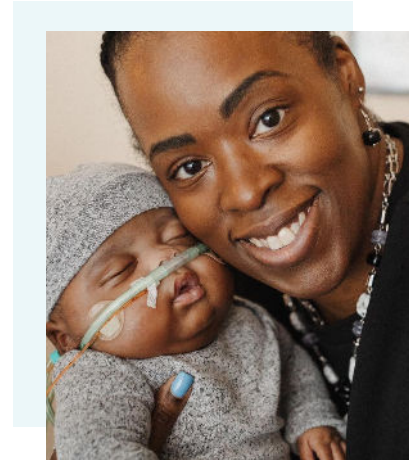


110⁺

HOSPITALS SERVED
THROUGHOUT THE NORTHEAST -
WITH MORE ADDED EVERY YEAR

“TyQuell was born at 24 weeks and weighed just 1 lb., 11 oz. He received donor milk in the NICU for several weeks, those terrifying early days when I didn’t want to finish the baby nursery because I wasn’t sure he would be coming home . . . Doctors told me donor milk would be beneficial, that it would help him grow. Knowing my son would have the nutrition he needed gave me so much comfort.”

Sherita, Baby TyQuell Received Donor Milk



Idris, like many babies being cared for in the NICU, was fed donor milk until my supply came in . . . Fortunate to receive the many benefits of human milk right from the start, it wasn’t long before his health and strength improved. I’m so grateful donor milk exists. I truly hope other babies in need (and their families) are able to access and benefit from this tremendous gift.”

Jamie, Received & Donated Milk With Baby Idris

“DONOR MILK IS USED IN 80% OF HOSPITAL NICUS NATIONWIDE TO PROTECT PRETERM INFANTS FROM NECROTIZING ENTEROCOLITIS (A LIFE-THREATENING CONDITION). AS A NEONATOLOGIST, I RECOGNIZE THE CRITICAL IMPORTANCE OF THIS MEDICAL RESOURCE AND THE NONPROFIT MILK BANKS WHO ENSURE ITS SAFE SUPPLY.”

~ DR. GINA TRACHMINOWICZ, MEDICAL DIRECTOR OF MOTHERS’ MILK BANK NORTHEAST 2024, & VP OF MAINE NEONATOLOGY ASSOCIATES



386

LOWER RESOURCED
FAMILIES SUPPORTED
THROUGH OUR
CHARITABLE GIVING
PROGRAMS



INVESTING IN EQUITABLE ACCESS

Last year Mothers' Milk Bank Northeast received two significant investments to increase equitable access for families.

The Davis Family Foundation

The Davis Family Foundation in Maine awarded us \$15,000 to increase donor milk access in more rural parts of Maine where families are harder to reach. With this support, we are building new partnerships throughout the state to provide more equitable access to donor milk and distributing tailored educational materials for Maine families.

Massachusetts Attorney General Campbell's office

Massachusetts Attorney General Campbell's office awarded our milk bank \$128,000 as part of their initiative to reduce maternal health disparities. Using this generous investment, we are partnering in several Massachusetts communities to provide high-need diverse populations subsidized donor milk. We are gathering data to determine if access to donor milk as a supplement for families choosing to breast/chestfeed but needing support, improves breast/chestfeeding outcomes. The immense long term health benefits for birthing parents and for babies from breast/chestfeeding makes this work vitally important.

"EVERY BABY DESERVES THE CHANCE TO THRIVE. WE ARE WORKING HARD TO EXPAND OUR OPERATIONS AND UPGRADE OUR SYSTEMS, STRIVING TO PROVIDE DONOR MILK TO EVERY BABY WHO NEEDS IT, REGARDLESS OF THEIR FAMILY CIRCUMSTANCES. WE ARE DEEPLY GRATEFUL TO OUR STAFF, BOARD, VOLUNTEERS, MILK DONORS AND GENEROUS SUPPORTERS WHO HELP MAKE OUR VISION A REALITY."

**~ MARK ROSEN, BOARD OF DIRECTORS CHAIR, MOTHERS'
MILK BANK NORTHEAST**

OUR WORK IS GETTING NOTICED

The critical importance of our work has been recognized and highlighted by many media outlets and invested in by a growing number of supporters. In the past year, Mothers' Milk Bank Northeast was featured in The Boston Globe, NPR, NBC Boston and others. Our press page can be viewed at milkbankne.org/media.



ctpost

The Boston Globe

wbur



x 4

GROWTH IN PHILANTHROPY
SINCE 2022



OUR INSTITUTIONAL SUPPORTERS

- THE ARIA COVEY FOUNDATION
- BLUE CROSS BLUE SHIELD OF MASSACHUSETTS FOUNDATION
- COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS - OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
- DAVIS FAMILY FOUNDATION
- FLORIAN J. LOMBARDI FOUNDATION, INC
- FLUSHING & BATAVIA FOUNDATION
- THE GREY ROCKS FOUNDATION, INC.
- MAINE NEONATOLOGY ASSOCIATES
- RITA J. & STANLEY H. KAPLAN FAMILY FOUNDATION, INC.
- SAMUEL RAPAPORTE JR. FOUNDATION
- YALE CHARITABLE FOUNDATION

IT TAKES A VILLAGE

THANK YOU FOR BEING A PART OF OURS

Our milk bank is community-based in every sense of the word. We partner deeply and uniquely with the many villages within our community – the village of health care professionals, volunteers, financial supporters, scientists, parents, milk donors, and all the babies who make this work worthwhile.

Thank you, every one of you, for what you do every day to help make sure that babies who need donor milk to grow and babies who need donor milk to survive are all nourished by it.



35

LIVES HONORED BY
BEREAVED MOTHERS
SHARING THE GIFT OF
THEIR MILK

“I DONATED TO SHOW MY DAUGHTER EVIE HOW MUCH I LOVE HER. I UNDERSTAND WHAT IT’S LIKE FOR FAMILIES WHO ARE SCARED AND NEED HELP. I DON’T HAVE A LOT TO GIVE BUT I HAVE THIS.”

~ CAELAH-BETH, BEREAVED MILK DONOR & MOM OF EVIE



2023



TOGETHER, WE MADE A
SPLASH FOR BABIES IN NEED:

- + MORE SPACE
- + BETTER EQUIPMENT
- = **15%** MORE MILK FOR MEDICALLY FRAGILE BABIES IN 2023 VS. 2022
- = **853,773** PRECIOUS OUNCES SAVING & SUPPORTING LITTLE LIVES.



EXTRA THANKS TO OUR MILK DONOR **SUPERHEROES** LIKE ANA CLARA & BABY GIGI.

1.5M⁺

**FEEDINGS FOR
FRAGILE INFANTS
EVERY YEAR**

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- Deborah C. Youngblood, PhD, CEO



SCAN TO LEARN
MILKBANKNE.ORG



SCAN TO GIVE
MILKBANKNE.ORG/SUPPORT

Saving & supporting newborn lives since 2006 . . .