

MOTHERS' MILK ALLIANCE, Inc.

local wealth for local health

Who we are:

Mother's Milk Alliance (MMA) is an all-volunteer collaboration that facilitates milk sharing in Dane County. Our board and volunteers include licensed midwives, nurses, International Board-Certified Lactation Consultants and other skilled breastfeeding helpers. Mothers' Milk Alliance is a 501(c)(3) organization funded by tax deductible financial contributions.

What we do:

Facilitation of human milk sharing consists of informed screening of donors and storage and distribution of milk, in alignment with international standards and guidelines for the safe sharing of human milk. We provide support for, foster relationships with, and are accountable to milk donors and recipients through a standardized process of:

- donor health history interviews;
- donor blood tests for diseases that may be passed through breast milk, including HIV 1&2, HTLV 1&2, syphilis, hepatitis B, hepatitis C;
- 24/7 response to requests for donor milk;
- triage of donor milk to infants up to 6 months of age;
- up-to-date breastfeeding information, safe pumping and milk handling & freezing guidelines and referrals as needed;
- support for lactation following infant loss.

How we are different:

MMA is a unique local collaboration built upon a shared-responsibility model for sustainable sharing of human milk.

MMA is not a milk bank. Milk is not pasteurized, homogenized or tested. Instructions in home pasteurization are available to each recipient.

MMA milk is free.

MMA is not informal milk sharing. All donors are screened for a panel of blood tests recommended by the Human Milk Banking Alliance of North America. Donors also complete and sign a written health history and interview assessment with a licensed midwife.

MMA is a transparent milk sharing model. MMA may accept milk from donors using medications shown to be compatible with breastfeeding. All milk is identified and tracked, and full disclosure is made to recipients regarding maternal medications. Recipients are informed of and supported in their right to decline any particular milk. Medical resources consulted include: Medications and Mothers' Milk (Thomas W. Hale, Ph.D.), LactMed (U.S. National Library of Medicine) and Infant Risk Center (Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center).

For further information and referral, please go to www.mothersmilkalliance.org.

Thank you!