

Breastfeeding Rooms in Syracuse



The Onondaga County Health Department's Healthy Communities Initiative through the Trinity Health Transforming Communities Initiative has implemented **19 breastfeeding rooms**, creating environmental changes at each location.

The locations of the dedicated breastfeeding rooms include: Family Planning, St. Joseph's Hospital, Peace Head Start at Merrick, Peace Head Start at Sumner, Peace Head Start at UUMC, Peace Head Start at James Street, Reach CNY, Interfaith Works, WIC, Syracuse Community Health Center, Southwest Community Center, ACR Health, The Most, Christian Health Center, The Boys and Girls Club, the Health Department at 501, Digital Hyve, Lydia's Lullaby, and Destiny USA.

Each breastfeeding room creates a dedicated and comfortable environment for mother to breastfeed or pump. Each room has been tailored to meet the needs of the individual breastfeeding room location. In addition, we outfit the room with educational materials about the health benefits of breastfeeding, referral information to WIC, and other related health information.



Next Steps:

We currently are focusing our efforts to encourage the adoption of breastfeeding policies for each location. The purpose of a policy is to ensure sustainability. The first location to adopt a breastfeeding policy was Destiny USA. This policy was created at Destiny after the installation of two Mamava lactation suites (breastfeeding rooms).

Evaluation:

We are currently in the process of evaluating the breastfeeding rooms that were created during year one of the grant. We are using a "Breastfeeding Assessment Tool" that was recommended by our evaluator with Trinity. We are looking at usage of the rooms, feedback from visitors of the breastfeeding rooms, feedback from staff where the breastfeeding room is located, and suggestions for modification, enhancements, or promotion of the breastfeeding rooms. Outcome information is forthcoming.



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