

# Best Practices for Supporting Human Milk Feeding in Alternative Housing Environments

1. Have a written policy that is communicated to all staff and residents and train all staff in implementation of this policy
2. Identify lactating families when they arrive and provide them with education, assurance and support to sustain their milk supply.
3. Protect the rights of babies to breastfeed in dining and public areas
4. Provide a clean, comfortable and safe space (not a bathroom) for breastfeeding / pumping. Private is not necessary, but implementing curtains or dividers on preference.
5. Encourage peer support that empowers families feeding choices.
6. Permit breastfeeding residents to bring their infants with them to any classes or groups within the facility
7. Develop a relationship with lactation resources in the community. Keep an updated guide of community breastfeeding resources, train all staff in its use, and give residents referrals as needed.

NMSA 1978, SECTION 28-20-1 (1999) MAKES IT LEGAL FOR A MOTHER TO BREASTFEED HER CHILD IN ANY LOCATION, PUBLIC OR PRIVATE, WHERE THE MOTHER IS OTHERWISE AUTHORIZED TO BE PRESENT.

**For more information and resources visit  
[breastfeedingnm.org](http://breastfeedingnm.org)**



**New Mexico**  
Breastfeeding Task Force

