



USLCA E-news
December 2008/ Issue 16

From the President: Glenda Dickerson, RN, MS, IBCLC

President's Address



Glenda Dickerson, RN, MS,
IBCLC
USLCA BOD President

"Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!" That familiar greeting reminds us that the end of 2008 is just around the corner! This year has truly been a roller coaster ride for our country economically and politically. A new administration will move into the White House, perhaps providing new opportunities through new policies. The economy promises to provide challenges for us all. How will these opportunities-and challenges-affect the lactation consultant? Will there be job losses in our profession because of the economic downturn our nation faces? Will lactation consultants be asked to provide input into health care as new policies are made? Our strength lies in our value to nursing mothers and babies and the positive effect we can have on preventative healthcare across the lifespan of our citizens. Will the new administration recognize that value? Who can

take our message to those making decision that will affect our profession? Well-go look in the mirror. You can! Join me in taking that message to as many people as possible. Be positive, polite, and persistent in encouraging others to recognize that lactation consultants can affect healthcare in a powerful way. A comment, a memo, a letter, an e-mail, a blog, a petition, an article, or a presentation-you never know who is listening.

Glenda

One Voice,

"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has."
Margaret Mead

In this issue:

FROM THE PRESIDENT: GLENDA DICKERSON, RN, MS, IBCLC, RLC

- [President's Address](#)

USLCA NEWS:

- [Have You Paid Your 2009 Membership Dues Yet?](#)
- [Speaking of Membership Benefits: Liability Insurance update](#)
- [USLCA's First Webinar a Winner!](#)
- [Updates From Last Month's USLCA Enews](#)

CHAPTER NEWS:

- [Chapter Reminder: Monthly Conference Calls](#)

USLCA MEMBERS IN THE NEWS:

- [Congratulations to USLCA Members in the News](#)

ILCA UPDATE:

- [A Reminder From ILCA: ILCA Ethics Survey](#)

LIAISON REPORT:

- [United States Breastfeeding Committee Comments on 2009 WIC Reauthorization](#)
- [American Academy of Family Physicians \(AAFP\) Revises Breastfeeding Position Paper](#)
- [National Quality Forum \(NQF\) Endorses Exclusive Breastfeeding at Hospital Discharge](#)

LEGISLATIVE NEWS:

- [Let Obama Know Breastfeeding Support by the IBCLC is a Key Ingredient to](#)

Improved Health Care!

- **Sign the Breastfeeding Petition to President-Elect Obama!**
- **Obama is Not the Only Elected Official Who Can Effect Change!**
- **Are You Interested in Health Policy in the US?**

CONFERENCE LISTINGS:

- **The SWAG 2009 USLCA Benefit Conference: March 6-7, 2009**
- **HealthSource for Women Presents: "More Than)Latch" Conference**
- **Wisconsin Association of Lactation Consultants (WALC), March 5-6, 2009**

TIPS:

- **MCH Library Knowledge Path: Postpartum Depression**
- **Seeking Reviewer for New Text on Maternal and Child Health**

USLCA NEWS**HAVE YOU PAID YOUR 2009 MEMBERSHIP DUES YET?**

ILCA/USLCA membership runs January 1 through December 31 annually. If you haven't already paid your 2009 dues, don't delay! Membership benefits include:

- Monthly issues of the *USLCA eNews*, *ILCA eGlobe*, and the quarterly *Journal of Human Lactation*
- Access to all areas of the ILCA and USLCA websites
- Low cost liability insurance for IBCLCs
- A plethora of opportunities to strengthen the IBCLC profession through active chapter support, sharing of legislative and reimbursement strategies, collaboration with other professional organizations, etc.

Questions? Contact our national office through email at ExecutiveDirector@uslcaonline.org or by phone at 919-861-4543.

USLCA'S FIRST WEBINAR A WINNER!

Were you among the 39 participants in USLCA's first Webinar, presented on November 20? This educational offering featured our own Glenda Dickerson speaking on "Making the Breastfeeding Decision: How to Not Make It a Guilt Trip"

Evaluations from participants were very positive. It has already been requested for Glenda to repeat this particular presentation. This was a trial and the first 25 USLCA members to sign up were free. USLCA was happy with the response and wants to market future webinars as a member benefit. It cost USLCA about \$200 to host the first webinar, but it was very successful.

Participants came from 13 states and all but 2 were IBCLCs.

CONFERENCE LISTINGS:**THE SWAG 2009 USLCA BENEFIT CONFERENCE: MARCH 6-7, 2009**

Once again, those generous "SWAG" ladies are putting on another terrific conference that will include a donation to USLCA. The 2009 Conference theme is "Right from the Start: Breastfeeding and Skin-to-Skin" and will feature Nils Bergman, MD; M. Jane Heinig, PhD, IBCLC, RLC; Jane A. Morton, MD; and Ulfat Shaikh, MD, MPH.

For more information, email Anne Garrett or Sue Wirth at SWAGconferences@aol.com.

HEALTHSOURCE FOR WOMEN PRESENTS: "MORE THAN... LATCH" CONFERENCE

This annual east coast conference will feature speakers E. Stephen Buescher, MD; Thomas Hale, PhD; Kathleen Kendall-Tackett, PhD, IBCLC, RLC; Christina Smillie, MD, FAAP, FABM; and Marsha Walker, RN, IBCLC, RLC, at Portsmouth, Virginia. For more information, [click here](#).

WISCONSIN ASSOCIATION OF LACTATION CONSULTANTS (WALC), MARCH 5-6, 2009

WALC, a USLCA Chapter, will be having its 2009 conference in Appleton, Wisconsin, and will feature Kathy Kendall-Tackett, PhD, IBCLC, RLC; Elizabeth Brooks, JD, IBCLC, RLC; and Kirsten Berggren, PhD, IBCLC, RLC. For more information, [click here](#).

LIAISON REPORT:**UNITED STATES BREASTFEEDING COMMITTEE COMMENTS ON 2009 WIC REAUTHORIZATION**

While most felt the information presented was not new, all participants felt the knowledge presented could be applied to their daily work setting. Nearly every attendee plans to participate in future webinars.

Other suggested topics for future webinars include:

- Grieving Process (Saying Goodbye to Breastmilk).
- How to Increase Breastfeeding Promotion in Health Care Providers
- Promoting Breastfeeding in a Community as a Norm
- Use of Herbs in Lactation
- Scheduled vs Hunger-Led Feeds in Newborns
- Getting Formula Out of Hospitals
- Teen moms
- Barriers and Premies in NICU
- Ethics
- Effects of Birthing Practices on Lactation
- Documentation and Record Keeping

Recommendations include:

- Future webinars continue to be one hour in length
- Various topics
- During the lunch time hour, available at more than one specific time slot
- Cost: \$20 USLCA member and \$30 Non-USLCA Member, \$55 for In-service with more 3 people in room

We look forward to future webinars since our first was so well received. If anyone has questions please contact Laurie Beck, RN, MSN, IBCLC, RLC, USLCA Director of Professional Development.

Thank you for supporting our first USLCA webinar!!

UPDATES FROM LAST MONTH'S USLCA *Enews*

The November eNews ran Part 1 of an article on the RLC designation, promising Part 2 in this issue. Look for Part 2 in January's issue.

The November issue also ran a request for IBCLCs working in Magnet Hospital settings to contact us for future discussion about how to ensure that IBCLCs are a part of this process. We have had good response from this request and are looking into the possibility of a conference call at a later date. If you are interested in participating in this discussion and have not contacted us yet, please email Karen Querna at KarenQuerna@uslcaonline.org.

CHAPTER NEWS

CHAPTER REMINDER: MONTHLY CONFERENCE CALLS

USLCA Member Services Director Debbie Costello, RN, IBCLC, RLC, continues to hold monthly conference calls on the first Sunday of each month for USLCA Chapter representatives. If your chapter is not yet represented, please contact Debbie at: debbiecostello@uslcaonline.org. The next call is scheduled for January 4, 2009, at 4:00pm EST.

The USBC has provided extensive comments on the 2009 WIC Reauthorization of the Child Nutrition Programs and the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC). The comments strengthen both the role of the IBCLC as well as efforts to improve breastfeeding among WIC clients. To read the comments, click [here](#).

AMERICAN ACADEMY OF FAMILY PHYSICIANS (AAFP) REVISES BREASTFEEDING POSITION PAPER

The USBC has provided extensive comments on the 2009 WIC Reauthorization of the Child Nutrition Programs and the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC). The comments strengthen both the role of the IBCLC as well as efforts to improve breastfeeding among WIC clients. To read the comments, click [here](#).

NATIONAL QUALITY FORUM (NQF) ENDORSES EXCLUSIVE BREASTFEEDING AT HOSPITAL DISCHARGE

The [National Quality Forum](#) recently endorsed a series of 17 standards of perinatal care, including tracking the percent of women delivering at a given hospital who are exclusively breastfeeding their newborns. [Click here](#) to read the press release and see the list of 17 measures. Other related links include the comments made about each measure. [Click here](#) for the comment page and then scroll through the dropdown menu to #13: Exclusive Breastfeeding at Hospital Discharge. A number of USLCA members provided valuable comments on this measure! You can also read the Draft Report from May 2008 [here](#).

LEGISLATIVE NEWS

LET PRESIDENT-ELECT OBAMA KNOW BREASTFEEDING SUPPORT BY THE IBCLC IS A KEY INGREDIENT TO IMPROVED HEALTH CARE!

Regardless of how—or even whether—you voted in the national election last month, we can all agree that with a new administration comes a new opportunity for change for the better. President-elect Barack Obama has identified improving health care as a priority, and is actively soliciting public comments about topics the American people are concerned about. Why not send him a comment that urges legislative support for breastfeeding—including the critical role of the IBCLC in providing appropriate care and support for breastfeeding mothers and babies? [Click here](#) to make your comment.

SIGN THE BREASTFEEDING PETITION TO PRESIDENT-ELECT OBAMA!

The United States Breastfeeding Committee has created a petition to urge President-elect Obama to take several actions to protect, promote, and support breastfeeding. If you haven't already signed the petition, do so by [clicking here](#).

PRESIDENT-ELECT OBAMA IS NOT THE ONLY ELECTED OFFICIAL WHO CAN EFFECT CHANGE!

Do you know who your elected officials are—and do you know what bills are before Congress that might have an

USLCA MEMBERS IN THE NEWS

Congratulations to three USLCA ILCA Fellows featured in the latest ILCA *eGlobe*: Jan Barger, RN, MA, IBCLC, RLC; Virginia (Ginger) Carney, RD, LPN, IBCLC, RLC; and Angela Jacobi, RN, APN/CNS, MN, IBCLC, RLC.

Congratulations also to Marsha Walker, RN, IBCLC, RLC, for the feature article, "Conquering Common Breastfeeding Problems," in the October/December 2008 *Journal of Perinatal & Neonatal Nursing*, pp. 267-274.

ILCA UPDATES

A REMINDER FROM ILCA: ILCA ETHICS SURVEY

On November 24th, The International Lactation Consultant Association's Ethics and International Code Committee sent an email seeking input from ILCA members about ethics. If you have not had a chance to complete the survey, **the survey will be available until December 31, 2008.**

The committee would like to know your opinions and experiences involving ethics in your practice. The survey refers to the IBLCE Code of Ethics to learn about ILCA members' needs and to plan for development of resources to support ILCA members in their work.

[Click here to access the Ethics Survey!](#)

All responses will be anonymous and confidential and only aggregate numbers will be used.

Our thanks and appreciation for taking the time to respond!

Sincerely,

On behalf of the Ethics and International Code Committee,
Joy Noel-Weiss RN IBCLC PhD(c), Committee Chair

impact on breastfeeding support? Do any of these bills support the role of the IBCLC? One website that you can track bills of interest by subject is GovTrack.us. For example, from that site, here is the page devoted to [HR 2236: Breastfeeding Promotion Act of 2007](#). Let's get involved!

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN HEALTH POLICY IN THE US?

The Kaiser Network publishes a number of health policy updates and alerts, including *The Kaiser First Edition* and the *Daily Health Policy Report*. [Click here](#) for more information and to subscribe.

TIPS: TECHNOLOGY IN PRACTICE

MCH LIBRARY KNOWLEDGE PATH: POSTPARTUM DEPRESSION

This [Knowledge Path](#) features resources to help support women suffering from postpartum depression. You'll find documents, websites, and organizations-and links to other MCH Knowledge Paths.

SEEKING REVIEWER FOR NEW TEXT ON MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH

Jossey-Bass's public health series is giving serious consideration to a proposal for a new text on maternal and child health. If you are interested and would be willing to share your opinions and comments on the proposal, please respond directly to publichealth@wiley.com.