#### Surgeon General's Call to Action to Support Breastfeeding: Mobilizing Community-Based Organizations



The Los Angeles Experience

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#### **Presenter Disclosure**

Karen Peters, MBA, RD, IBCLC

The following personal financial relationships with commercial interests relevant to this presentation existed during the past 12 months:

No relationships to disclose.

## Public Health Breastfeeding Policy Initiative



## **Breastfeeding Matters**

- <u>Indisputable benefits</u> to breastfeeding for baby, mother, family and society
- <u>Reduced risk</u> for many diseases with exclusive and extensive breastfeeding



## **Maternity Care Policy Matters**

Exerts unique influence on both

- breastfeeding initiation &
- · later infant feeding behavior





## Hospitals have a unique opportunity

- Breastfeeding is an extremely <u>time-sensitive</u> relationship
- Experience with breastfeeding in the <u>first hours and days of life</u> significantly influence an infant's later feeding

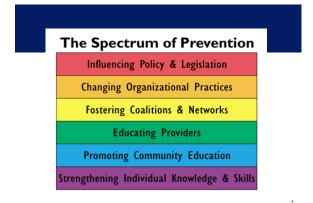


## **Hospital Policy is Key**

Written policy = better breastfeeding outcomes at 2 weeks

Admin Hospital Monitor Policy Improvement

Rosenberg, Breastfeeding Medicine, 2008



## Maternity Care affects on Breastfeeding

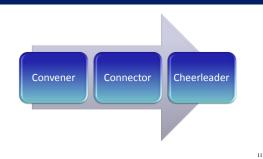


#### **Evidence-Based Interventions**

- CDC recommends <u>bringing key</u> <u>decision makers together</u> to address the importance of evidence-based breastfeeding practices
- · Lessons learned from others
  - San Bernardino County
  - Orange County
  - San Joaquin County
  - · Massachusetts & Colorado



**Role of Public Health** 



**Role of Breastfeeding Coalitions** 



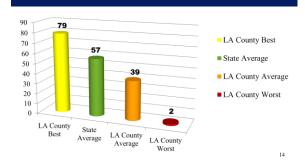
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## **Los Angeles County**



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## **In-Hospital Exclusive Breastfeeding**



## **Collaboration Matters**



## **Regional Hospital Breastfeeding** Consortium



## **Baby-Friendly Hospital Initiative**

What is Baby-Friendly?

## **Baby-Friendly Hospital Initiative**

#### WHO/UNICEF Initiative

- 20,000+ Globally
- 114 US
- 40 California
- 8 Los Angeles

Babyfriendlyusa.org As of September 30, 2011

#### 10 Steps to Successful Breastfeeding



10 Steps to Successful Breastfeeding



The 4 D Pathway to Baby-Friendly™ Designation Dissemination **D**evelopment

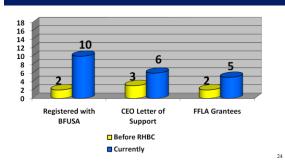
# **Managing change** Plan Sustain Do

## Regional HBC - SPA 7 & 8 **One Year Later**

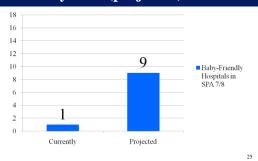
- ▶ Positive feedback from participants
- ▶ Engaged participants
- ▶ Increased collaboration
- ▶ Progress towards Baby-Friendly



## Regional HBC - SPA 7 & 8 **One Year Later**



## SPA 7/8 Baby-Friendly Hospitals by 2015 (projected)



## **Regional HBC Expansion**

- · Three Consortiums are now convening
  - North
  - East
  - South
- 85% of the hospitals have attended



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## **Celebrating Success**



## Working together

"It is literally true that you can succeed best and quickest by helping others to succeed."

Napoleon Hill
American Author

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## How can you help?

#### Advocate for...

- ▶ Evidence-based maternity care
- ▶ Buy-in from the top
- ► Baby-Friendly hospitals for all communities
- ▶ Health in all policies

#### Additionally...

▶ Review your own policies



## Breastfeeding evens the playing field

Breastfeeding is a natural "safety net" against the worst effects of poverty ...it is almost as if breastfeeding takes the infant out of poverty for those first few months in order to give the child a fairer start in life and compensate for the injustice of the world into which it was born.



James P. Grant Former Executive Director UNICEF

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## Thank You



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