



1717 S Calhoun Street, Fort Wayne, IN 46802

phone 260-458-2641

PO Box 11949, Fort Wayne, IN 46862

fax 260-458-3093

mynhfw.org

Media Contact:

Kevin Erb – Ferguson Advertising

kevin@fai2.com

260.426.4401

For Immediate Release

Neighborhood Health earns national recognition for breastfeeding support

August [xx], 2020, Fort Wayne, Ind. — Neighborhood Health has earned national recognition from the U.S. Department of Agriculture for its promotion and support of breastfeeding for WIC families.

Neighborhood Health received the USDA's 2020 Loving Support Award of Excellence, which recognizes local WIC agencies that have provided exemplary breastfeeding promotion and support activities. Neighborhood Health received a Premier award; this is the second time in the past three years it has earned a Loving Support Award of Excellence.

"This award is a reflection of the commitment and support of our entire team," said Angie Zaegel, CEO of Neighborhood Health. "We know how important breastfeeding, with its widely recognized health, immunologic and economic advantages, is for all mothers — and this is especially true of mothers in the WIC program. It's critical in setting at-risk mothers and newborns on a path toward positive health outcomes."

Neighborhood Health has impacted breastfeeding duration rates by providing ongoing education, peer support and quality breast pumps and supplies to its WIC mothers. In addition, Neighborhood Health staff are trained to fit new mothers properly for breast pumps and ensure they have the right pump for their needs. Its innovative pump program helps mothers to provide human milk when separated from their baby due to working, school, NICU, hospitalization and other reasons.

Neighborhood Health is one of nine community health centers to earn a Loving Support Award for 2020. To be eligible, local WIC agencies must complete an application which evaluates the policies and procedures surrounding breastfeeding promotion and support, the Breastfeeding Peer Counselor program, and partnerships with local hospitals and other organizations working toward similar breastfeeding goals. For more information on the Loving Support Award of Excellence, visit usda.gov.

About Neighborhood Health

Neighborhood Health employs caring people including board certified physicians, dentists, dental hygienists, nurse practitioners, registered dietitians, registered nurses, and licensed social workers. Neighborhood Health is committed to building healthier communities by delivering comprehensive, quality health care regardless of socioeconomic status. For more information, visit mynhfw.org.

FEDERALLY QUALIFIED HEALTH CENTER

"This program is supported by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) as part of an award totaling \$3,203,978 with 70% financed by non-governmental sources. The contents are those of the authors(s) and do not necessarily represent the official views of, nor an endorsement, by HRSA, HHS or the U.S. Government." "Providing access to quality health services where everyone is cared for with compassion and respect."

"Providing access to quality health services where everyone is cared for with compassion and respect."

