

LACTATION CONSULTANT

General Description and Examples of Work

General Description

The lactation consultant (LC) has advanced training, knowledge and skills in lactation required by the International Board of Lactation Consultant Examiners and as indicated by International Board-Certified Lactation Consultant (IBCLC) certification. This position provides clinical lactation assessment and counseling services to clients and may provide lactation mentoring and training to staff and peer counselors and is considered the Designated Breastfeeding Expert (DBE). The LC must have dedicated time, separate from other clinic duties, to provide these services.

Examples of Work

- Receives and follows up on referrals on clients with complex breastfeeding and chestfeeding situations.
- Assess complex breastfeeding situations, providing counseling to high-risk parents /infants by developing strategies to assist them to initiate and maintain their breastfeeding and chestfeeding goals.
- Develop an individualized feeding plan with the breastfeeding and chestfeeding client and document the encounters.
- Document breastfeeding and chestfeeding assessment, care plan and education. Note can be documented in MI-WIC if LC is a local agency employee, or by having local agency staff scan and upload note.
- Participate in the selection, planning, preparation and evaluation of teaching aids and materials.
- Conduct individual and group breastfeeding education sessions.
- Complete/implement portions of the nutrition care plan, if related to breastfeeding.
- Provide technical lactation training, mentoring, orientation, and guidance for staff.
- In agencies with Peer Counselor Program:
 - Mentor and provide follow-up and guidance to peer counselors.
 - Work with the Peer Counselor Coordinator to assess program needs and recommend improvements for the local peer program.