



ASSESSMENT: BRAINSTORMING QUESTIONS

1. What support and services are currently available to our employees that can be used to help them combine working and breastfeeding? Think broadly. Remember, the needs of breastfeeding women who are returning to work include sufficient maternity leave to establish lactation; flexible return-to-work options; time and sufficient private space, other than a bathroom, to express milk or breastfeed; education about breastfeeding and access to professional lactation support; support from supervisors, colleagues, and other mothers; and child-care providers supportive of breastfeeding.
2. How well do current services meet employees' needs?
3. Do different job functions have different access to or needs for services?
4. Is there a lactation support policy in place? If so, what aspects of the policy need to be improved?
5. How does the physical environment support a lactation support program?
6. What barriers in the physical environment make creating a lactation support program a challenge?
7. How do employees perceive your organization's support for a lactation support program?
8. How do other stakeholders perceive your organization's support for a lactation support program?
9. How will you measure success? What baseline information do you need to collect now?
10. What are underlying health risks within the population?
11. Are there any special considerations about the population you are trying to reach?
12. What worksite priorities relate to this issue (controlled costs, improved health outcomes, improved retention, improved morale or productivity, reduced absenteeism)?

Adapted from CDC Healthier Worksite Initiative, Lactation Support Program Toolkit. Assessing Need and Interest. Available from: http://www.cdc.gov/nccdphp/dnpao/hwi/toolkits/lactation/assessing_need.htm