



Mothers'
Milk Bank
of the Western
Great Lakes

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PrimeCare Health Opens Two Milk Depot locations in Chicago Neighborhoods

PrimeCare Health has established 2 new donor milk drop-off locations for human milk donors living near the Belmont Cragin and Wicker Park neighborhoods on the city's North side.

The milk depots will collect and store frozen human milk donations from healthy, lactating women who are approved donors through Mothers' Milk Bank of the Western Great Lakes (Milk Bank WGL). Upon collection, the donations are all transported to the milk bank's processing facility in Elk Grove Village, IL, where they are pasteurized to eliminate any viruses and bacteria. After pasteurization, the milk is tested again for safety and then distributed primarily to hospitals in Illinois and Wisconsin.

Milk Bank WGL and PrimeCare are happy to partner and continue the fight to save tiny lives. Pasteurized donor human milk is an important nutritional therapy for many at-risk Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) babies, as it provides numerous benefits in the absence of the mother's milk, including infection-fighting factors, active growth and development hormones, improved digestion and ideal nutrition. While Prime Care fully supports breastfeeding whenever possible, donor milk can be used when the mother has a low milk supply, is ill or on certain medications, or in cases of adoption or surrogacy. The demand for safe, pasteurized donor milk is rapidly increasing, and these two new Depot locations will help to ensure that every local baby in need has access to this life saving resource.

*"PrimeCare Community Health is very proud to partner with Milk Bank WGL! **This is an exciting opportunity for women in our community to support newborns and families in need.** Thank you for this opportunity to be the bridge for all involved!" - Lynn Hopkins, CEO*

*"It is well documented that infant's health, growth, development, and immunity are positively impacted when receiving human breastmilk. **For many medically fragile and hospitalized infants the gift of breastmilk is a lifeline for improved health and often a respite for parents in these frightening situations.** PrimeCare Community Health is honored to partner with Milk Bank WGL and serve the community with this important need." - Cindy Walsh, DNP, RN, Director of Clinical Operations*

"Rigorous safety protocols ensure that pasteurized donor human milk is safe when it's provided from a milk bank that adheres to guidelines from the Human Milk Banking Association of North America. Potential donors are blood tested and thoroughly screened for communicable diseases, activities that increase the risk of blood borne diseases, and the use of tobacco, alcohol, and medications," says Summer Kelly, Executive Director of Mothers' Milk Bank of the Western Great Lakes. **"Milk collected from Prime Care's milk depots will help support the complex nutritional needs of sick and premature babies in Illinois and Wisconsin."**

PrimeCare Belmont Cragin is located at 5635 W Belmont Ave, Chicago, IL 60634.

PrimeCare Wicker Park is located at 1127 North Oakley Boulevard 2nd Floor, Chicago, IL 60622.

Moms interested in becoming a donor through the Mothers' Milk Bank of the Western Great Lakes can go to www.milkbankwgl.org/donate-milk and fill out the Donor Interest Form.

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www.primcarehealth.org
www.milkbankwgl.org
www.hmbana.org

Mothers' Milk Bank of the Western Great Lakes saves tiny lives by collecting, pasteurizing, and dispensing donor human milk to premature babies and pediatric patients. As a registered 501(c)(3) non-profit member of the Human Milk Banking Association of North America, we are proud to serve over 50 hospitals and hundreds of families throughout Wisconsin and Illinois.

PrimeCareHealth is a Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) providing quality, affordable health care to medically underserved populations.