

Mission:

To protect, promote & improve the health of all people in Florida through integrated state, county & community efforts.



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Vision: To be the **Healthiest State** in the Nation

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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DOH-OKALOOSA RECEIVES BREASTFEEDING FRIENDLY EMPLOYER AWARD

OKALOOSA COUNTY, FL — The Florida Department of Health in Okaloosa County (DOH-Okaloosa) received the Florida Breastfeeding Friendly Employer Award this week. The award is given by the Florida Breastfeeding Coalition to recognize businesses who are providing support in the workplace to their breastfeeding employees. DOH-Okaloosa received a Gold Level award, which is the highest designation.

This award could not have come at a more appropriate time. World Breastfeeding Week continues until August 7th, and the theme this year is “Breastfeeding and Work...Let’s Make it Work.” The campaign highlights the need to support women in balancing work and family and especially to breastfeed their babies. August is also National Breastfeeding Awareness Month.

“This award shows that DOH-Okaloosa is serious about being an example of how community employers can provide support to their working moms,” stated Dr. Karen Chapman, Director of the Florida Department of Health in Okaloosa County. “I encourage all workplaces to strive towards being breastfeeding friendly, so we can make Okaloosa the friendliest community in the state for breastfeeding moms and their babies.”

The award’s application allows employers to look at their policies, facilities, scheduling, and resources they are providing to their new or expecting mothers. For more information about the Florida Breastfeeding Friendly Employer Award and how to apply, please visit flbreastfeeding.org/employerprogram.htm.

Other county health departments in Florida that have received the Florida Breastfeeding Friendly Employer Award are:

- Florida Department of Health in Broward County
- Florida Department of Health in Miami-Dade County
- Florida Department of Health in Orange County

For more information, please visit www.healthyokaloosa.com, www.floridahealth.gov, www.worldbreastfeedingweek.org, or www.cdc.gov/breastfeeding.

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