## Richard Whitley, MS Administrator

Tracey D. Green, M.D. State Health Officer



Contact Name: Martha Framsted, PIO

Phone Number: 775.684.4014

Date: April 12, 2010

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## NEVADA STATE HEALTH DIVISION NEWS RELEASE

Nevada State Health Division Receives Additional Federal Funding Due to Outstanding Achievement in Improving Breastfeeding Rates

\*Additional funding received totals \$129,331

Carson City – Due to the outstanding achievement in improving breastfeeding rates among Women, Infant and Children (WIC) participants, Nevada is one of five of the larger state agencies receiving additional funding. The funding is to be used to further breastfeeding promotion and support efforts within their program.

Kelly Langdon, Statewide Breastfeeding Coordinator said, "Breastfeeding is extremely beneficial. Babies who are breastfed until at least the age of six months experience better nutrition, digestion and their immune systems are more robust. Moms who breastfeed also experience benefits, such as a lower risk of breast and ovarian cancers."

Langdon will be using the bonus funding to promote breastfeeding, both in and out of the WIC clinics. She is also looking into the possibility of establishing a statewide breastfeeding hotline and working with the local breastfeeding coalitions in her promotional efforts.

Nevada also has state statutes that support breastfeeding. Nevada Revised Statute 201.232 authorizes breastfeeding in any public or private location where a mother is authorized to be.

"My goal," said Langdon, "is to continue to see improvements in Nevada's breastfeeding rates through our continued promotional activities and educational outreach."

For more information about the state's breastfeeding program, please go to: <a href="http://health.nv.gov/BCFCW\_Breastfeeding.htm">http://health.nv.gov/BCFCW\_Breastfeeding.htm</a>



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