



## Lessons Learned from a CNO

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# Objectives

#### Participants will be able to

- identify factors that influence breastfeeding in the US
- offer talking points to advocate for breastfeeding among administrators and others who influence policy



### The Issue

- Suboptimal Breastfeeding
- 1.4 million child deaths worldwide





## The solution

- Breastfeeding promotes child health
  - Reducing the incidence of disease
  - Promotes growth and development
  - Reduces the risk of future chronic illness
- WHO & UNICEF recommendations



#### **Current State**

- Most women plan to breastfeed
- US breastfeeding rates
  - 79% ever breastfed
  - 18.8% exclusivity rate by 6 months

- Oklahoma breastfeeding rates
  - 71% ever breastfed
  - 15.5% exclusivity rate by 6 months

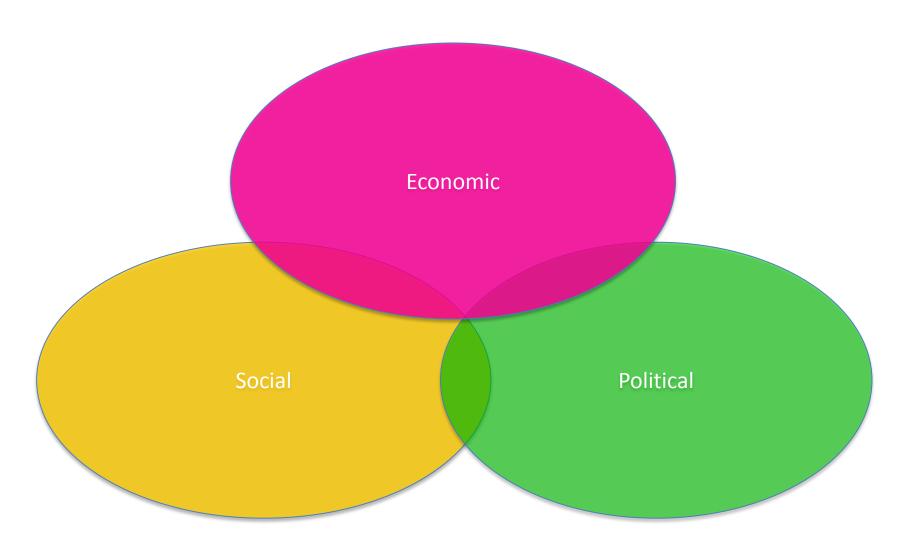


# **Unraveling Normal**





# Influencing Factors





#### **Economic Factors**

- Manufacturing of breast milk substitutes in 1840s
- Transformation of American into capitalistic and democratic society
- Mass production 1945-1975
- Baby food companies became billion dollar industries





#### **Political Factors**

- International Code for Marketing Breastfeeding Products – 1981
  - US only country that voted no
- Innocenti Declaration 1990
  - US did not adopt





### Social Determinants in Health Care

- Income
- Education
- Occupation
- Economic class
- Gender
- Race
- Ethnicity



#### Power

Social status and economic position influence

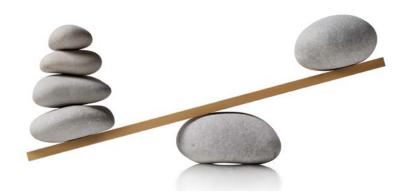
power





# Advocacy and Social Justice

- Advocacy
  - Raise awareness of an issue
  - Issues stratified by the individual, institution, community, and global levels





# **Action Steps**

- Safety factors to protect mothers and ensuring rights of supporting breastfeeding
- Social political factors to influence policy by building alliances in community
- Ethical factors and human rights
- Financial factors and costs of advocacy



# Maximizing Positive Impact

- Articulating point of view
- Identifying policy makers
- Collaborating with key interest groups
- Developing strategy to align interests and support
- Policy development and implementation that support Baby Friendly and the Innocenti Declaration adoption



# **Advocacy Talking Points**

- World Health Organization and UNICEF (2015)
  - Joint Statement
- Oklahoma House Bill 2102, 2358
- Affordable Care Act (2010)
- The Surgeon General Call to Action
- Healthy People 2020



# Leadership Lessons

- Breastfeeding is a national priority
- Breastfeeding is the normal
- Breast milk is the perfect food for infants
- Breast milk provides whole life benefits
- Laws that protect breastfeeding mothers are not fully enforced
- Marketing breast milk substitutes is associated with the decline of breastfeeding world wide
- Economic, social, and political factors influence the breastfeeding rate.
- Advocacy is needed at all levels
- Baby Friendly Hospital Initiative



# The end



http://www.cdc.gov/media/haveyouheard/images/2013/2013\_08\_05\_travel\_breastfeeding.jpg

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