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DOH-SANTA ROSA BREASTFEEDING PROGRAM COORDINATOR SELECTED TO ATTEND USDA SPONSORED TRAINING



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Milton, FL - Elisabeth "Lis" Jordan, health educator consultant and breastfeeding program coordinator for the Florida Department of Health in Santa Rosa County (DOH-Santa Rosa) WIC program, is one of five breastfeeding educators from the State of Florida selected to attend a national breastfeeding "train-the-trainer" conference in Atlanta, Georgia, May 7-9. The conference is sponsored by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) for The Loving Support Peer Counselor Program. The training will cover the program's new platform. Upon completion of her training, Lis will facilitate training of other breastfeeding program coordinators in the Northwest Region of Florida.

Lis is an International Breastfeeding Certified Lactation Consultant (IBCLC) and has been the coordinator of the DOH-Santa Rosa WIC breastfeeding program since June 2017. In her short time with the Department, she has already been instrumental in increasing Santa Rosa County's breastfeeding rate from 75.4% to 78%.

In January 2018, Lis organized the program's breastfeeding support group, The Milky Way. The group meets the first Thursday of the month at 10:00 a.m. at the health department's Milton location, 5527 Stewart Street. Between six and eight mothers and their babies attend each month to support each other and share tips for a successful breastfeeding experience.

Lis is passionate in her support of the WIC breastfeeding program and her enthusiasm is evident when she talks about it. She said, "I started my career in breastfeeding advocacy as a peer counselor for WIC. My heart's desire was to support mothers and babies in their breastfeeding relationship. It's what I wanted to do. It was that simple. And now, 7 years later, that same desire has led me to some of the most amazing opportunities. I am honored to be a part of this national training and am hopeful for the future of breastfeeding support in our community and in our nation. I truly believe in the good things coming."

Lis and the WIC program's breastfeeding peer counselor, Dawn Hodges-Nolan, are available to answer questions by phone 7-days-a-week, or mothers with questions can make an appointment to meet with them in the WIC office during regular business hours.

The Milky Way support group is open to all breastfeeding mothers and their partners, whether they participate in the WIC program or not. For more information, contact the DOH-Santa Rosa WIC office at 850-983-5250, or visit the health department's breastfeeding site at

<http://santarosa.floridahealth.gov/programs-and-services/wellness-programs/wic/breastfeeding-information/index.html>.

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