

The Bank Statement March 2016

600 W. Magnolia Ave. Fort Worth, Texas 76104 817.810.0071 www.texasmilkbank.org

Growth Requires Lab Expansion & Renovation in 2016



Amy Vickers Executive Director

Like the fragile babies we serve, Mothers' Milk Bank of North Texas is thriving. For us, growing pains are good and reflect the success of meeting the rising demand for safe, donor human milk.

Since opening in 2004, each year we have dispensed more milk than the year before. After processing more than half a million ounces in 2015, it was clear our lab needed additional space to accommodate projected needs in the future.

This month, we are in the final phases of completing a lab expansion project that will improve

efficiency and greatly impact the volume of donor milk dispensed. Lab renovations have modified three areas within our current

building and allocated space for an additional pasteurizer. The milk logging and packing rooms have already been relocated to enable the lab to occupy two rooms: one for milk thawing, homogenization and packaging; the second for sterilization and pasteurization. While construction is always challenging, we are thrilled to have the capacity to help thousands more medically needy babies have a fighting chance.



New pasteurization and sterilization room

Another Record Year by the Numbers















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Dur Year in Photos

This balloon release at the Carmen's Tree memorial service in May honored babies whose bereaved mothers donated breastmilk to help other babies.



Outreach Health Services staff in Greenville, Texas celebrate becoming a new depot collection site in July, one of 7 new depots in 2015.



Christina Casares and family at the donor appreciation day at the Fort Worth Zoo.



The 4th Annual Family Expo and Big Latch On at Will Rogers Memorial Center in August.



Donor moms and neonatologists at the 11th Anniversary Luncheon at Ridglea Country Club in September. From left: Falisha Young, Darryl Miao, MD, Britt Bachmann, Erin Hamilton Spence, MD, Susan Sward-Comunelli, MD, and Janice Villarreal *photo courtesy Mike Miller

Connecting with Another Mom Creates Deeper Meaning for Donors

Tracy's family is no stranger to pumping. Her first child, Samuel, couldn't latch appropriately and had to receive breastmilk solely through pumping. Tracy found support, resources, and community along her journey through a Facebook group called Exclusive Pumping: Breastfeeding without Nursing.

When Tracy was pregnant with daughter Evelyn, she connected with MMBNT donor Joyce through this Facebook group. Joyce's son, Cooper, was stillborn, and Joyce's role as a donor helps save the lives of babies while honoring her son. Tracy felt inspired by Joyce and Cooper's story, and when Evelyn was born on Cooper's due date, they felt an even stronger connection.



Tracy's daughter, Evelyn, was born on Cooper's due date. *photo courtesy Courtney Utley Photography

The meaning runs even deeper: Evelyn's birthday and Coo- *photo courtesy Courtney Uth per's due date, October 15, is a worldwide day of recognition for infant loss and miscarriage.

"When Tracy posted how our story touched her, my journey as a grief donor went full circle," Joyce said.

Joyce is proud of the impact Cooper's tiny footprint is making. Her goal of donating for one year is in sight, having accomplished eight months of pumping so far. And whenever she gets the chance to shed light on being a grief donor, Joyce takes it.



Joyce's donor milk

"I can't begin to say how healing pumping for Cooper has been," Joyce said.

Today, Tracy is also a proud MMBNT donor. As a resident of Conway, Arkansas, she drops off her milk at one of our depots, Baptist Health Medical Center, in Little Rock. She credits her oversupply of breastmilk and ability to donate to her history of pumping.

"Without Samuel's latch issues, I don't know if I would have been able to produce enough to donate," Tracy said. "In hindsight I'm grateful."

An experienced pumper, Tracy has her freezer storage method down to a science. However, she knows that being

flexible, forgiving, and loving is key to the breastfeeding experience. She also has her husband, John, to thank for his help in the process, from researching pumps to bagging the milk.

"To me, donating means life, it means healing and connecting with other women and their babies," Tracy said. "It provides me with an additional sense of purpose."

MOTHERS' MILK BANK OF NORTH TEXAS ENVISIONS A FUTURE WHERE ALL BABIES HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO RECEIVE HUMAN MILK

Who Got Milk - Some of Dur Dutpatient Babies







Esgar



Reagan

Noah

Who Gave Milk - Some of Dur Donors



Kiauna, a repeat donor, with a full bag of donor milk.



Allison dropping her donation at a depot site



Christina, her little one, and a cooler full of donor milk

(4)



Melinda's daughter and her first milk donation



Ashley, her little helper, and bags and coolers of donor milk



Caitlynn and her family dropping off her milk donation

Donor Milk... A Prescription for Life



Esgar was born weighing 1 pound, 8 ounces



Sandra with Esgar in the NICU

Sandra heard over and over again that she would never be able to have children. When she learned that she was pregnant, she and her husband Jose felt they were receiving a great blessing. However, this happy moment in their lives took a scary turn when baby Esgar was born prematurely at 25 weeks.

Esgar entered the world with heart problems, blood clots, and low iron, to name a few of his complications, while weighing just one pound, eight ounces. With everything happening in the hospital, Sandra was unsure he would ever make it home.

Fortunately, Esgar grew stronger and got to go home with his parents. He continued to have special health needs, though, and Sandra's friend had the perfect idea.

She directed Sandra to Mothers' Milk Bank of North Texas, where Sandra learned about

Esgar's option to become an outpatient recipient of donor human milk. Through this program, Esgar's prescription for donor milk would enable him to receive it at home.

Once Esgar became an outpatient recipient, his digestion improved and he began gaining weight. Now a year after his tiny beginnings, Sandra is confident that donor milk turned his life around.

"I hate to imagine the struggle we would have gone through if there weren't amazing mothers who donate milk. Thank you just isn't enough for saving my child's life," said Sandra.

Sandra, Jose, and Esgar are thrilled to be part of the MMBNT family. From milk pick-ups at the office to regular phone calls, the staff stays current with Esgar's progress and well-being, and Sandra loves catching up with everyone at MMBNT.



Esgar today







Esgar and his Dad

"Growing evidence supports the role of donated human milk in assisting infants with special needs, such as infants in newhorn intensive care units who are unable to receive their own mothers' milk, to achieve the best possible health outcome." -U.S. Surgeon General

2015 Individual Donations

Victoria Adams Suzanne Akhtar Patricia Alridge Jennifer Anderson Monica Balbo Rosie Balbo Bate and Leyla Bate Adrien Beggerly Johnell and Louis Begin Lindsay Black Scott Black Judy Bona Diane Bonham Stacey Boyle Kathy and Ben Brann Chris Breece Christina Brinker Anna Brissman Laura Burnett Lucretia Bush Mr. and Mrs. William Butler Terry Callahan Amanda Cason Arlen "Benny" Cenac **Emily Cook** Sarah Crotty Betty Crow Meredeth Daigrepont Dara Dallas, MD Madelyn Dean

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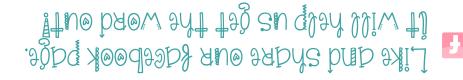
Mothers' Milk Bank of North Texas strives to improve the health and survival of critically ill infants through the safe provision of pasteurized donor human milk.

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