

Southeast Regional Representative Report

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Southeast/East Central area are: (submitted by Lisa Sheer)

- **Divine Connections:** A group of three doulas (one of which is also an IBCLC) have started **Birth Worker Meet Ups** monthly in Muskingum County. There seems to be a lot of interest in collaboration. Last week the CNM who does deliver at the hospital and works at the FQHC attended with her RN assistant, with great promise for building even more midwife access for the county through adding a full midwife program at that FQHC (Muskingum Valley Health Center). MVHC also has the Centering Pregnancy program but I'm unsure of its current status. Divine Connections is also holding mother group meet ups monthly (virtually right now) and is holding CBE classes and prenatal bf education classes at a local yoga studio (who wants to further women's health in the community). Their website contains a large Resource page created to help families find additional resources like bodywork, pelvic floor therapy, doula services, lactation, fatherhood programs, mental health services, etc. Their website: <https://www.divineconnectionsOhio.com/>
- Muskingum Co WIC and Coshocton Co WIC - both are seeing only bf clients with problems in person, all other types of appts are still over the phone and curbside pick up for food issuance.
- I attended the Knox County BF Network meeting. They typically do a bf tent for families at fairs and festivals. They plan to continue that but are also looking for other ways to do outreach/get involved in the community. They have interest in the ODH BF Friendly Childcare program and also Workplace Lactation.
- Through Latching On, I have contracted with Nurture Columbus to start accepting some insurances for lactation consultations. The plan is to kick off after the first of Feb.
- There is a lot of interest in BF Cafes from parents. I think we will start having them virtually again and hope to start meeting in person in the spring (fingers crossed).