

# The Milk Bank and Marion General Hospital Announce Milk Depot Opening

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*Gail Elbert, Marion General Hospital*

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Marion General Hospital and The Milk Bank are excited to announce that on April 20th, Marion General Hospital will become The Milk Bank’s newest Milk Depot site. The public is invited to join the groups for a virtual grand opening at 1PM EDT at <https://bit.ly/3uU8l1f>.

A Milk Depot is a site where approved donor mothers can drop off frozen, surplus breast milk. The milk is transported to The Milk Bank in Indianapolis to be pasteurized and distributed to NICUs and outpatient families throughout the Midwest. Ideal candidates for milk

donors are non-smoking women in good general health who take limited or no medications or herbal supplements. For clarification on eligibility, contact The Milk Bank at 317-536-1670 or visit [themilkbank.org/donate-milk](http://themilkbank.org/donate-milk).

The Milk Bank’s Executive Director, Freedom Kolb shared, "Marion General Hospital’s commitment to breastfeeding and efforts to improve maternal and infant health align perfectly with The Milk Bank. They make an outstanding partner! The new Milk Depot at Marion General Hospital helps to fill a gap in accessibility in northern central Indiana.”

“Access to human milk dramatically boosts important outcomes that allow sick and fragile newborns to thrive. We at Marion General Hospital are so excited to open a milk collection depot and offer this medicine to our youngest patients. We are definitely going full circle in terms of high quality care.” states Gail Elbert, director of Maternal/Child/Great Beginnings at Marion General Hospital.

In the absence of an infant’s own mother’s milk, pasteurized donor human milk (PDHM) offers many of the same benefits, such as optimal nutrition, easy digestibility, and immunologic

protection against organisms and diseases. The Milk Bank aims to encourage breastfeeding mothers and provide PDHM for any infant or child with medical necessity.

#### About The Milk Bank

The Milk Bank was established to improve health outcomes for premature and ill infants, foster better health for children and decrease health care expenditures. The Milk Bank receives human milk from carefully screened donors, pasteurizes, freezes, and distributes it throughout the United States. As a non-profit, community-supported entity, The Milk Bank is the first and only donor human milk bank in Indiana. The Milk Bank is a proud member of the Human Milk Banking Association of North America.

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