

2023 ANNUAL REPORT



MISSION

Mothers' Milk Bank of Tennessee is dedicated to providing safe, pasteurized donor human milk to the most vulnerable babies.

OUR PURPOSE

Human milk has been proven to decrease the incidence of life-threatening newborn infections. Our purpose is to collect, process, and dispense Pasteurized Human Donor Milk (PHDM) to preterm and medically fragile infants who would not otherwise have access to human milk. An estimated 60% of NICU moms are not able to produce enough milk.



TENNESSEE DATA

1 in 9

babies are born preterm
(before 37 weeks)

11th

highest preterm birth
rate in the nation

14th

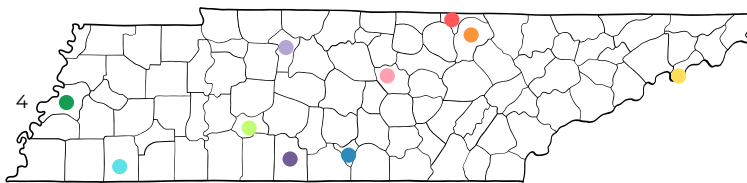
highest infant mortality
rate in the nation

1 in 11

babies are born at low birthweight
(less than 5 pounds, 8 ounces)

44

Counties have a preterm birth rate
higher than the state rate of 11.1%



Sources:
Tennessee Department of Health
CDC/National Center for Health Statistics

Counties with the Highest Preterm Birth Rates:

- | | |
|---------------|--------------|
| 1. Pickett | 6. Giles |
| 2. Moore | 7. Dekalb |
| 3. Unicoi | 8. Lewis |
| 4. Lauderdale | 9. Hardeman |
| 5. Fentress | 10. Cheatham |

MILESTONES

2014

Founded by Brister and Helen Scott, and Bruce and Susan Campbell. Throughout their careers both Susan Campbell, a neonatologist, and Helen Scott, an International Board Certified Lactation Consultant and registered nurse, saw firsthand how preterm infants benefitted from having human milk compared to babies who were given formula. Their experiences and expertise fueled their desire to start a milk bank in Tennessee.



2015

Became a developing Milk Bank with the Human Milk Banking Association of North America (HMBANA) and was mentored by the Austin Milk Bank.

2016

Opened the first Milk Drop Depot in Tennessee at Nashville General Hospital followed by the second opening at Regional One Health. Collections were sent to the Austin Milk Bank for pasteurization.

2017

Opened Milk Drop Depots at Southern Tennessee Regional Health System of Pulaski, TriStar Hendersonville Medical Center and TriStar StoneCrest Medical Center.

2018

Opened Milk Drop Depots at Maury Regional Medical Center and Children's Hospital at Erlanger.

2019

Opened Milk Drop Depots at TriStar Centennial Medical Center, Bloom Into Parenting, TriStar Horizon Medical Center, Ascension Saint Thomas Rutherford and Contemporary Women's Health Clinic.

2021

Opened pasteurization facility in Murfreesboro, Tennessee and became an accredited Member Milk Bank with (HMBANA)

2022

Opened Milk Drop Depots at Shults Pediatrics, Ascension Saint Thomas Hospital Midtown and Highpoint Health.

2023

Celebrated 2nd Anniversary of pasteurization facility.



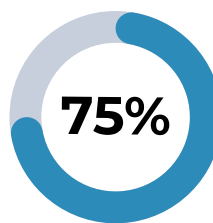


SAVING LIVES ONE OUNCE AT A TIME

Breast milk is the best nutrition for newborns. Unfortunately, some babies do not have access to breast milk at birth. For medically fragile infants, breast milk is more than a nutritional choice, it is a lifesaving intervention.

Each year, hundreds of extraordinary Tennessee moms volunteer to share their excess milk to advance our mission to provide safe, pasteurized donor human milk to the most vulnerable babies. Our milk donors are improving outcomes for preterm and critical infants with every ounce of their lifesaving milk.

To learn more about becoming a milk donor, please visit milkbanktn.org.



Studies have proven the use of only human milk to feed preterm and low birth weight infants reduced mortality by 75%.

"My baby was blessed with donor milk until mine came in and when it did, it came in an abundance. While she was still in the NICU, a doctor approached me and with my over supply noted, handed me a card with the information to donate and told me I should look into it. Within a month of bringing our baby home I was screened and ready to donate my first 300oz to babies in need across the state! I can't help but think God allowed me to be an overproducer, so I'd be able to bless other babies like mine was blessed with donor milk. What a blessing it is to know other kids are nourished just like my baby was!" - Julie



"My baby was born at 35 weeks and 6 days. He wasn't admitted to the NICU until the evening he was born due to continued trouble breathing. From the moment I entered the NICU, the nurses asked if donor milk was okay and of course I said yes. I continued to pump but my milk didn't come in until a few days after he was born and admitted. I am so blessed that other moms were willing to share their breastmilk with my little man until my milk came in and I had enough for him.

As time went on, I was able to boost my supply so much that I was making 10 oz excess of milk a day that he wasn't taking so that milk went to the freezer. Once I built up enough milk in my freezer for my son to have until it was time to wean, I decided I wanted to donate any extra milk I made while weaning myself off the pump. I am grateful I can bless other babies and mamas just like we were when we were in the NICU." - Katherine

2023 IMPACT

307

Approved Milk Donors

20%

Increase in total dispensation
over 2022

16

Hospitals Served

249,053

Feedings Dispensed

THE POWER OF HUMAN MILK

Medically fragile babies that receive human milk have decreased risks of

- lung disease
- sepsis
- retinopathy of prematurity (a common cause of blindness in premature babies)
- Necrotizing enterocolitis (NEC)

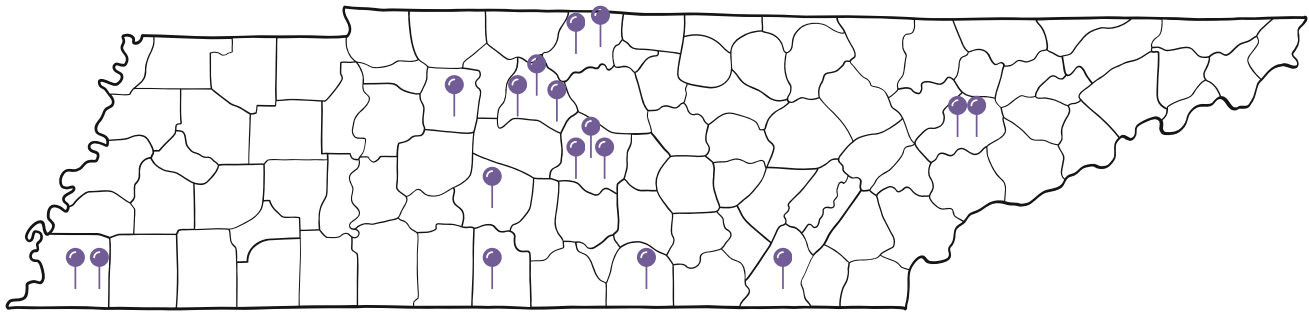
NEC is a leading cause of infant death, impacting thousands of babies every year. It is a devastating intestinal disease that primarily affects babies born prematurely or with a medical complication. The CDC estimates 1 in about every 10 deaths in NICUs are because of NEC.

“ Sadly, we don't yet understand exactly what causes NEC and there are probably several causes. While human milk does not completely eliminate NEC, it does protect the babies and reduce their chances of getting NEC. Since human milk is the only way we have found to prevent NEC, we work very hard to provide premature babies with human milk, preferably mother's own milk or donor milk if her milk is unavailable. ”

- Stephanie Attarian, MD

MILK DROP DEPOTS

Mothers' Milk Bank of Tennessee is proud to partner with the following organizations to provide convenient locations for our approved donor moms to drop off their milk donations. In 2023, our Milk Drop Depots collected **235,576 ounces** from approved donors.



MILK DROP DEPOTS BY CITY

Chattanooga: Erlanger Children's Hospital
Columbia: Maury Regional Medical Center
Dickson: TriStar Horizon Medical Center
Gallatin: Highpoint Health
Germantown: Memphis Pediatrics
Hendersonville: TriStar Hendersonville Medical Center
Knoxville: Contemporary Women's Health Clinic
Knoxville: Shults Pediatrics
Memphis: Regional One Health
Murfreesboro: Ascension Saint Thomas Rutherford
Murfreesboro: Mothers' Milk Bank of Tennessee
Nashville: Ascension Saint Thomas Hospital Midtown
Nashville: Nashville General Hospital at Meharry
Nashville: TriStar Centennial Medical Center
Pulaski: Southern Tennessee Regional Healthcare
Smyrna: TriStar StoneCrest Medical Center
Winchester: Southern Tennessee Regional Healthcare

**at the time of publication*



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Glen and Patricia Hutchinson	
Drs. William Doak and Margreete Johnston	

*Names are listed as they were provided.
Five donors wish to remain anonymous.*

CORPORATE SUPPORTERS

We would like to thank the following organizations for their contributions. Their support in 2023 made a significant impact benefitting babies born too small and too soon.



Christy-Houston Foundation



Blackman
Community Club

St. Elizabeth's Episcopal Church
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Emerald
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